

THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 12TH JULY.

A CORRESPONDENT sends the following High Court gup:

"A paper was lately taken to the new Chief Justice Sir R. Garth for signature. His Lordship asked what it was. He was told that it was a paper connected with the English Department of the Court. The chief wanted to know what was meant by the 'English Department.' He accepted the definition that was given him but could not understand why the said Department should be in the keeping of Mr. Justice L. S. Jackson, whereupon the attending officer, delivered an oration, which, stripped of the conventional 'it seems,' 'I think's' &c. &c. amounted to this, that previous Chief Justices, unable to do all that they should have done themselves, had contrived a vicarious method of discharging their duties by forging the 'English Department' and setting up Mr. Justice Jackson as their Vicar Elect. We have not been told whether Sir R. Garth gasped, gasped, or changed color on hearing this, but we have been pretty clearly assured that he did not allow the officer to escape him until he had (with due emphasis, no doubt) dinned into his auditory organs these instructive and meat-for-other-ears words, 'I do not know whether I should like to be relieved of any portion of my duties.' Brave beginning this. Three cheers for Sir R. Garth!"

THERE HAS BEEN lately some correspondence between the Government of Bengal and the Chief Commissioner of Assam regarding the importation of Sirdari coolies. The frequent outbreak of cholera among emigrants proceeding to Assam in steamers and flats had attracted the attention of the Lieutenant Governor for some time, and led to the preparation of a statement showing the mortality which occurred on the numerous steamer passages during the last season. From December 1873 to March 1874 the number of coolies conveyed by steamers and flats from Goalando was 8232 and the total number of deaths in four months was 334. The reports submitted by the Superintendent of Emigration of the several voyages in question confirmed the belief that the disease in nearly all cases originated with Sirdari coolies, who had embarked without any medical observation. The Lieutenant Governor accordingly passed a rule that no emigrants shall be embarked on a vessel carrying more than twenty persons, without, in the first instance, undergoing medical inspection at the place of embarkation, and careful medical observation for a period of fully four clear days in depots specially provided for the purpose. The rule in question came into operation from the 1st of January this year, and affects—(1) free emigrants, and (2) garden sirdars' emigrants recruited in batches of less than twenty. Sirdari coolies recruited in batches of more than twenty are, under Section 18 of the above Act, subject to the provisions relating to recruiters' coolies, and are therefore brought under observation in the Calcutta depots. The Chief Commissioner protested against this rule, but the Government of India supports the Bengal Government.

SURGEON-GENERAL E. G. BALFOUR lately made a proposition to Madras Government that it might be suggested to the Municipal and Local Fund Boards to lay the foundation of a Public Library at such of the towns as might seem to them desirable. The Government has declined to entertain the suggestion. "The Governor in Council is not satisfied that the time has arrived for establishing Public Libraries in the Provinces where education is still in a very backward state."

THE GOVERNMENT of Madras has introduced a new Abkari system, which is described as "giving a monopoly of manufacture and sale to one person or firm, who pays a fixed excise on each gallon of liquor leaving the distillery, and sells it under the regulations and restrictions as to number of shops, minimum price, &c., of the farming system, with the farther precaution that dilution is not allowed." We hate monopolies.

A SUGAR planter writing from the Mauritius to the Surveyor General of Victoria, says that it is his intention to leave that colony, and that many other planters will shortly be obliged to follow his example. Numbers of plantations have been shut up or abandoned by their owners, and the agreements with the cool labourers have been cancelled. The sugar crop was very poor last season, and it is not expected to be better this year. In addition to the depression existing in all

industrial pursuits, disease is rampant, the island being desolated by a raging fever. The writer fears that the prosperity of Mauritius has departed for ever. Is the note of alarm sounded in consequence of the late Royal Commission?

THE FOLLOWING is from the Proceedings of the Madras Government:—"It was recently recorded in a Provincial newspaper that the Collector of a district, on the occasion of his proceeding on furlough accepted a farewell entertainment from the Native community of the chief town. It will be notified to the gentleman concerned and to the heads of departments generally, that this proceeding is contrary to the spirit of the Standing Orders of Government, which prohibit public officers from receiving addresses and testimonials of all kinds." The Madras Government seems to be more strict in these matters than the other local governments.

THE FOLLOWING paragraph is going the round of the papers. The income of the United Kingdom is guessed at about £800,000,000 per annum, or £30 as the average income of every individual in the United Kingdom, while the income of British India is guessed at about £300,000,000, or say about £2 per annum as the income of every individual in British India. The guess, however rough, shows the marked disparity in the material condition of Great Britain and British India.

TUESDAY, 13TH JULY.

A NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT says that in America frauds upon the revenue are again the order of the day. In Missouri and Kansas some dozen of large distillers have been seized by orders from Washington, and Commissioner Douglass has been suspended for complicity with the "Whisky Ring." The amounts are variously stated of which the Government has been defrauded, but a million pounds is supposed to cover the sum. Simultaneously with this raid upon distillers in the West, another raid has been made on the New York Custom House, and hundreds of officials are in hourly fear of what is called there "decapitation." A special Commissioner from Washington is holding a searching investigation into the state of things, with a view of finding out the various methods of fraud employed by the officers in connection with New York merchants.

WHILE THE Cabul news-writer of the *Delhi Gazette* announces that Afghanistan is on the eve of a war with Russia, letters from St. Petersburg assert that England and Russia have come to an agreement that Afghanistan will be neutralised and taken under the common protectorate of the two States. As soon as the quarrel between Yakub Khan and Sher Ali is stopped it will be decided if Herat shall also be neutralised. The relations of Russia with the Khan of Bokhara and the subjected Turcomans and Yomuds are to undergo no change.

MR. HIND acknowledges in the *Times* a telegram from Mr. Stephan, Director of the Observatory at Marseilles, notifying the discovery, by M. Borelly, of a new planet belonging to the group between Mars and Jupiter. At 10 p. m. its right ascension was 260deg. 4min., and its north Polar distance 111 deg. 20min. The daily motion in right ascension is 16min. diminishing, and in north polar distance 5min. increasing. This planet, in addition to two lately discovered by Professor Peters, of Clinton, New York, raises the number of planets composing this group to 146.

THE HON'BLE T. G. Grosvenor, Second Secretary to the Legation at Peking, and Mr. Edward Colborne Baker, formerly Her Majesty's Consul at Tamsin, in Formosa, are the European officials selected by Mr. Wade to proceed to Yunnan to investigate the murder of Mr. Margary.

WE TAKE the following Cabul news from the *Delhi Gazette*:

"21st June.—The Amir on hearing that the Meer of Mamana had arrived at Charikar, desired Sirdar Mohamed Ibrahim Khan to go with all the officials to receive him and to give him the best accommodation in the new cantonment."

"22nd.—The Amir had an interview with Sirdar Mohamed Yakoub Khan this morning and spoke to him as follows:—"I am going to do something for you provided you obey me fully."

"I am not your son," replied the Sirdar, "but a slave." As for your releasing me from prison, I do not wish you to do so until you are prepared to do justice. You did not punish the men who attempted to poison me. Make over the men to me

and also Ursulla Khan, Ghilznee, who deceived me, and then I will act according to your instructions. As long as you are living, I will be happy to serve you faithfully."

The Amir made no reply and returned to the palace."

"24th June.—It is reported in Cabul that the chief object of the Meer of Mamana's visit to the Ameer is to ask his aid. It is said that the Meer with some Afghan troops has been defeated by the Russians, who are said to have crossed the Hamoon. Rumour is prevalent here that the Russian troops are close to Moor (Murve) and Mamana."

"25th.—A merchant reports that Naib Mohamed Ullum Khan, governor of Turkistan, is privately in communication with the Russians and has gone towards their side of the Hamoon. Some say that he has fled from Turkistan."

"26th.—The Amir received the following from Ursulla Khan Ghilznee, and Zardad Khan, Mohmund:—

"As desired by the Amir we have posted Jazailah troops at different stations at Lallpooah. Nouroze Khan is at Gundal. Some two or three thousands Moolhas had joined Nouroze Khan at that place and had a skirmish with the Mohmunds, who defeated them. About forty men are said to have been killed and wounded."

A VERY important case, affecting the liability of railways and of other carriers, was lately decided by the House of Lords. On an appeal from the Court of Session in Scotland it was settled that a railway or steamship company could not, by a notice printed on the back of a passenger's ticket, avoid responsibility for negligence, unless the passenger's attention had been specially called to the notice and he had accepted the ticket on the understanding that he would have no remedy against negligence. But the question is whether even with such notice carrying companies should be allowed to impose as a condition of their ordinary contracts that their negligence, however gross, shall not render them liable for damages.

AN INTERNATIONAL Exhibition is to be held at Brussels next year. It will comprise all matters relating to the saving of life, the lessening of human suffering, the improvement of the dwellings of the working classes, &c. A congress for discussion will be held in connection with the exhibition, and will be permanently organised, holding its meetings triennially in the various capitals of Europe.

WEDNESDAY 14TH JULY.

IT IS STATED that Prince Bismarck has obtained, by an Imperial ordinance of June 4, leave for an indefinite period. The Ministers von Bulow, Camphausen, and Delbruck are charged with executing the duties of the Chancellor. The Emperor has, however, reserved to himself the power of requiring Bismarck's advice in special cases even during his leave. Will the European world now have rest?

THE IMPERIAL Judicial Committee appointed by the German Parliament has adopted a clause in the Criminal Code Bill, enacting that at trials relative to published matter, editors, publishers, and printers, may in future decline disclosing the name of the author or sender of the article with reference to which the charge is brought. A decided improvement!

THE NEW YORK papers publish intelligence of a terrible earthquake in the Cucuta Valley, Republic of New Granada. The town, it is stated, has been entirely destroyed by the earthquake, and only a few families were saved. Five other towns were nearly destroyed. Out of the population of the district thus visited, numbering 35,000, 16,000 are reported lost.

THE ENGLISH PEOPLE have given a warm reception to the Sultan of Zanzibar. A London Correspondent says: The Premier has waited on him; he has been to Marlborough House, and seen the Prince and Princess of Wales *en famille*, to say nothing of his presence at a reception of Lady Derby's at the Foreign Office, and of one promised him by the Marchioness of Salisbury. He has visited Brighton and the aquarium, been mildly mobbed at the Alexandra Palace, and received deputations of philanthropic societies, full of Livingstone and the East African slave-trade. There is rather a good story afloat of something that occurred during his interview with, or rather reception of, the Premier. He asked his illustrious guest through his interpreter, Dr. Badger, whether in England a vizier held office in perpetual dread of the dagger and the bow. "Oh! no," was Dizzy's reply, a half-genuine, half-jocular comment on his own felicity. "Viziers here are pitied, not envied!" On which His Highness was pleased to observe that the vizier who could give such an answer to such a question must be a very clever one!

Amongst the notices of motion for Tuesday, 16th of July, in the House of Commons, were the following, relating to India:—

"Mr. Mark Stewart.—To call attention to the evidence given before the East India Finance Committee, 1871, with reference to the opium traffic; and to move. That this House is of opinion that the Imperial Policy regulating the opium traffic between India and China should be carefully considered by Her Majesty's Government with a view to the gradual withdrawal of the Government of India from the cultivation and manufacture of opium."

Mr. Sullivan.—Gaekwar of Baroda.—To call attention to the proceedings in connection with the so-called trial and deposition of His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda; and to move. That this House cannot approve of the conduct of the Indian Government in relation to the trial and deposition of His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda, and considers those proceedings calculated to cause uneasiness, suspicion, and mistrust in the minds of the chiefs and people of India."

Mr. Arthur Mills.—Gaekwar of Baroda:—As an amendment to the motion of Mr. Sullivan, to the previous question."

A LONDON CORRESPONDENT says that "a jute-trade association has been formed in London. The general objects of the association will be similar to those of the cotton association, but it will especially strive to lessen the abuses which have grown up with the growing trade in jute." There ought to be a corresponding association in Calcutta. Here is a hint for Mr. Macalister, our Jute King.

WE OBSERVE that Mr. Millett, Legislative Secretary to the Bengal Government, has been appointed First Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court. The late Mr. Fagan stepped from the Legislative Chamber into the Small Cause Court.

THURSDAY, 15TH JULY.

THE WATER ANALYST of Calcutta makes the following report upon the turbidity of the Pulta water:

"The water has been increasing in turbidity from the 22nd of June: earlier than usual, corresponding to the early and abundant rain-fall. A reference to the table shows that notwithstanding the apparent impurity, the water is really purer in June than it was in April or May, when it was clear and bright."

Experiments were made last season to discover whether the water could, without any great sacrifice or inconvenience, be supplied clear during the rainy season. It is, however, abundantly proved by the repeated analyses already made, that the difficulty of filtration at this season, is due to the unusual purity of the water. If this be admitted, it does not appear desirable to attempt to clarify the whole supply for the town, more especially as any individual inhabitant can easily clarify and render bright for himself, that small portion which is required for drinking purposes."

The turbidity and consequent unsightliness depends on the presence of a minute portion of very finely divided clayey matter, between which and the slightly alkaline, but almost pure, water, such an amount of adhesive force is exerted that the ordinary force of gravitation, which would result in the agglomeration of the minute particles, is overcome. Any (but more especially acid) soluble impurities overcome this adhesion, causing the impalpable particles to become aggregated and subside. The most simple and practical method of removing the turbidity is to add a few grains of common alum to the water over night, and pouring off the clear portion in the morning. The quantity of this impurity required is too minute to be worthy of consideration, while brightness and transparency are qualities which all prize in a glass of drinking water."

WE GIVE the following comparative return of mortality in Calcutta during the second quarter of 1874 and 1875 respectively:

NATURE OF DISEASES.	1875.	1874.
	Total.	Total.
Fever	959	888
Dysentery	26	159
Diarrhoea	151	166
Cholera	457	553
Small-pox	303	29
Other causes	1,056	1,016
Total	3,142	2,761

The Health-Officer remarks:

"Whatever may be the causes which have, during the last eight years, influenced the mortality in Calcutta, it cannot be denied, as I have already pointed out in my last Annual Report, that there is a very strange and curious coincidence between the increase in the number of deaths from fevers of the zymotic or preventable class, and the progress of the sanitary works of the drainage."

The coincidence is certainly remarkable.

Appropos of the fish-scare Dr. Tounnerre makes the following remarks:

"Dr. Charles Robin, the great Microscopist of Paris, in his book on parasites living in the body of animals or man, gives no less than eleven kinds of parasites found in the viscera of the various fishes of Europe, and it is most remarkable that the daintiest and most recherche kinds are the most affected. Frogs, more especially which are so much sought after in the Continent of Europe, have their pectoral and abdominal viscera covered with myriads of parasites. The fish-consuming population may make their minds easy, and eat their fish, as usual without fear of danger to their health. Besides, as the slightest heat is sufficient to kill these parasites, there is no reason to apprehend that their introduction into the economy would be followed by evil consequences, as the caloric of the stomach would, during the process of digestion, be more than sufficient to destroy life in parasites from cold-blooded animals."

The frog is a delicacy with the French!

IN RECOGNITION of the valuable services rendered to Government, the Viceroy has conferred the title of "Rao Bahadur" on Manibhai Iasbhai, Native Assistant to the Resident of Baroda.

It is stated that Sir Madhava Rao proposes to bring out a Government Gazette in Baroda.

THE RUTH Jatra festival has passed off this year without any accident.

A JAPANESE PRIEST memorialized the Vice-Minister of Public Worship against the spread of Christianity, because he says that religion "inculcates neither respect to the Sovereign, nor the honour due to parents, and as it involves laxity in the discharge of these civil and domestic duties, must prove injurious." The Vice-Minister's reply is that "the Memorial be approved and permitted. But, *excepting religion* nothing must be done to diminish the good understanding which exists between foreigners and the people of the country."

FRIDAY, 16TH JULY.

THE WORLD, a London paper, publishes the following confidential letter from the late Mr. Drummond to Mr. Disraeli; when the latter was Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1852:

Albury Park, 5 Mar., 1852.

My dear Mr. Disraeli, I wish you success, and if you think that I can in any way serve you, pray command me.

You must mend some things. 1st. Jolliffe is too delicate to know how to bribe half the Irish and the Times. They must be bought, however, or they will upset you.

2. You have no Lord Lansdowne or Lady Palmerston, nor a dozen other such, to give incessant *soirees*. You mismanaged this before, and you ought not to have put old fat stupid Christopher into the Government, but have made him give dinners and *soirees*. This must be done by somebody.

3. Your chief rock ahead is Reform. Johnny can upset you whenever he pleases; but he will not please unless he can insure his being sent for by the Queen, and not Palmerston.

Since you are pledged to a Reform Bill, I enclose you a sketch of the best I have ever seen. It has been prepared many years by a very able lawyer, and if you approve of it I will converse with you upon its details. You must have some Bill *in petto* ready at a moment's notice to lay on the table of the House; and you must take care that none of its provisions transpire. It may be your best policy to let some one not in office be the prime mover in the affair and if you so judge I have no objection to move in it. But whatever you do, make your Cabinet keep their tongues to themselves.

Another want you have is persons to answer Osborne, Horsman, Bright, Gibson, and a host of other revolutionary blackguards. Animals of that kind must be brought. You are now in army without provost marshals. But they may be had cheap—Always yours faithfully,

Henry Drummond.

The Dukes of Richmond and Buccleuch should open their houses; also Lords Salisbury and Exeter. That is their contingent.

THE MADRAS BOARD of Revenue does not seem to be above small things. The following occurs in its last report:

"In the Huzar and Taluk Cutcheries of some Districts, large quantities of Lamp-oil are purchased, and the reason appears to be that Cutcheries are kept open till a late hour of the night. In some Taluqs, the Tashildars apparently make it a rule to go to Cutcherry in the middle of the day or in the evening, and to detain the whole establishment till a late hour of the night, working by Lamp-light. This is irregular, and wherever the practice exists, it should be stopped at once. The Cutcherry should be opened regularly not later than 10 o'clock and closed about 6 o'clock in the evening, except on any emergent occasions, and even on such occasions the whole establishment need not be detained. The charge for Lamp-oil will, in future, undergo strict scrutiny."

Take care of your pence, and your pounds will take care of themselves—this seems to be the motto of the Madras Board.

THE PALL MALL GAZETTE thus concludes an article on the obstructiveness of the Bombay Government in the matter of the removal of Col. Phayre from the Baroda Residency:

"It is not often that a rebuke so severe as this is addressed to a high functionary abroad except as prefatory to his recall, or received by him except necessitating his resignation. But severe as it is, every word of it will, if we mistake not, be echoed by public opinion in this country. It is simply intolerable that such a post as a residency, and at such a Court as that of Baroda, should be treated as a mere 'berth' for a fussy incapable, to be held by him till such time as an influential connection can get him another of equal emolument a truth brought home to us with biting force, when we reflect that if the Bombay Government had done a plain, manifest, and necessary duty the whole of those miserable inextricable Baroda-trial troubles would have been averted. They all follow from the circumstance that the Government of Bombay could not reconcile the proper conduct of public affairs with the private interests of somebody's kinsman. But if we had many officials like Colonel Phayre and many Governors who took Sir Philip Wodehouse's view of his duties, there would soon be no more appointments to job, for there would be no Indian Empire wherein to dispose of them."

It is time that Sir Phillip Wodehouse should be allowed the "option" of resigning.

BLEEDING for subscriptions as a mode of civilized existence has become an art. The Prince of Wales in proposing prosperity to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution in a post-prandial speech, said, "You were kind enough just now to drink in a cordial manner my health, but I think if I had put myself before you as a surgeon whose health you were going to drink you might not have received me so cordially. On this occasion, I hope, you will look upon me as a surgeon. The few words I have to say to you are my lancet, with which I have to bleed you—and you will all feel much the better

for it. (Laughter and cheers.)" In response to this pleasantry £8,000 was subscribed on the spot.

THE FOLLOWING resolutions were carried at yesterday's meeting of the Calcutta Justices:

Moved by J. Wilson, Esq., Seconded by Baboo Chunder Mohan Chatterjee—"That the question of contracts and purchases be referred for investigation and report to a Select Committee."—Carried.

Moved by F. J. Marsden, Esq., Seconded by the Hon'ble T. W. Brookes—"That the conduct of the Vice-Chairman with reference to the subjects of to-day's discussion be generally enquired into."—Carried.

Moved by J. B. Roberts, Esq., Seconded by F. Jennings, Esq.,—"That it be an instruction especially to the committee to enquire and report in respect to an altered assessment of the land and hat borne in the justices assessment books as Nos. 14 and 14A, Manicktollah Street."—Carried.

Moved by J. Wilson, Esq., Seconded by Baboo Chunder Mohan Chatterjee—"That the following Justices be invited to serve on the committee—J. B. Roberts Esq., J. B. Knight, Esq., J. Wilson, Esq., B. Newman, Esq., Hon'ble Kristo Das pal, Rajah Jotendra Mohan Tagore, Bahadoor; Rajah Norandra Krishna, Bahadoor; Baboo Rajendra Lal, Mittra, Baboo Degumber Mittra, and the Chairman of the Justices."—Carried.

SATURDAY, 17TH JULY.

WE ARE REQUESTED to announce that Father Lafont will deliver his usual fortnightly lecture on Thursday next—subject—"Electricity—some applications of Induction Currents."

THERE SEEMS to be a regular raid against natives of good social position in Banda. A correspondent thus writes to us:

"Hesameoddin Khan a landholder, Doctor and Municipal Commissioner has been sentenced to 6 months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 500 under Section 199 I. P. Code."

The late Post Master of Banda Baboo Rankey Behary Lal has been sentenced to 5 years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 50 under Section 48 of the Post Office Act.

Bholanath Brahman banker has been sentenced to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment for killing his wife in a fit of intoxication under Section 304 I. P. Code and his two elder brothers to 6 months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100 each for omitting to give information of the above offence.

Seth Kishen Chand a banker, landholder, Municipal Commissioner, Member of the Local Funds Committee and is under trial before the Joint Magistrate of Banda under Section 199, 109 and 465 I. P. Code.

Murli, a Lumberdar of Mattand, member of the Local Funds Committee has been committed for trial to the Sessions Court under Section 109-199 and 201 I. P. Code. This Murli and others of Mattand had during the Mutiny of 1857 saved the lives of many a European fugitive from Nowgong and for which distinguished service they received Khilnat from Government and a reduction in the land revenue of their village which is to be continued in every future settlement.

Manni Ram Dubey a landholder of Khandeb has been sentenced to 6 months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 1 or 200 under Section 218 I. P. Code."

THE SAME CORRESPONDENT says that the Mozuffnagar Municipality has voted Rs. 1500 out of Rs. 3000, the cost of a Christian Church, and asks why should it not contribute in the same way towards the erection of Hindu temples and Mahomedan mosques?

SIR MADHAVA RAO seems to be working in right earnest. He has issued the following circular:

"Firstly, that no head of any office shall fill any vacancy from outside unless Baroda is unable to supply honest and competent men and that again not without the sanction of the Dewan; secondly, that in filling any place, no one shall be promoted without regard to the rule of gradation, and the last place shall be given to the senior candidate only; and thirdly, that the head of any office shall not, without the sanction of the Dewan, appoint or promote any of his relatives or creatures to any place or office."

WE HAVE RECEIVED the prospectus of a new Magazine, to be called the *Oriental Magazine*. We wish it every success.

A CORRESPONDENT at Bhaugulpore gives *kudos* to Mr. Quinn, who has been newly appointed Magistrate of that district, for vigorously undertaking the reform of amla abuses. We hope all good men interested in the purification of the amladom of the district will second his efforts.

THE LORD BISHOP has raised his voice against Lotteries. Referring to a recent advertisement for raffles, out of the proceeds of which Rs. 10,000 are to be given in sums of Rs. 500 to certain charities; His Lordship says, "such advertisements are illegal in the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, but I consider further that such pretences to charity at the expense of morality are evil in themselves." His Lordship thus concludes: "Whether the Government of Bengal will take any action against the promoters of this raffle it is not for me to determine."

THE *Indian Daily News* has the following:

"A hundred other officers, occupying more or less important positions, and probably quite as incompetent as Colonel Phayre, if not more so, are retained in responsible posts for the same reason for which Colonel Phayre was retained in his. Their friends have no other comfortable posts to find for them. It will be seen that it is not only because there are no suitable posts for them, but because they have friends and relatives to think so, that they are retained in posts for which they are known to be unfit."

Is this possible under our enlightened and Christian Government?

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London 9th July. In the Lords last night, the Marquis of Salisbury, replying to Lord Middleton, said that the class of Un-

covenanted Civil Servants for whom the Duke of Argyll contemplated an extension of furlough was extremely small. The correspondence on the subject, he said, was nearly completed, but he could not give hopes of any large extension.

London 10th July. TURKEY is sending an embassy to Peking in furtherance of the interests of Mahomedans in China.

In the Commons last night, Mr. Bourke stated that Government was uninformed respecting the decision of the Chinese Government concerning the establishment of consulates and legations in Europe. Mr. Wade, the British Consul, was absent from Peking; but advices were shortly expected from him.

Disastrous floods are reported from Normandy.

London 13th July. IN the Commons last night, Mr. Disraeli in replying to Sir Wilfrid Lawson, said that the communication of the correspondence which passed between Lord Salisbury and the Viceroy relative to the Prince of Wales's visit to India was inexpedient, as the correspondence was strictly confidential.

Lord George Hamilton, in replying to a question relative to Mulhar Rao said, that the political circumstances render a certain restraint towards him necessary, but that the Secretary of State for India, after consulting the Indian Government, had decided to allow his legal advisers to have access to him, provided their business was previously stated, and that Mulhar Rao wished to see them.

London 14th July. Lord George Hamilton in replying to a question said that Mr. Shaw was instructed to return from Kashghur when the negotiations for a commercial Treaty were completed, and that under this treaty no power existed to appoint a Political Agent in Kashghar.

London, 14th July. THE Official Turkish budget shows a deficit of four millions sterling.

The Carlists are being closely pressed by Alphonso troops.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the undermentioned publications and periodicals: 1. Report on the Administration of Mysore for the year 1873-74. 2. The Collected Works of Sir William Jones republished by Jogendranath Ghose. Vol. II. Nos. 9 & 10. 3. Minutes of Proceedings of the Annual General Meeting of the Bombay Association and the 6th & 7th reports of the Committee of Management for 1873 & 1874. 4. An Epitome of the History of India by Mathuranath Barma. Part I. 5. Fourth Annual Report of the National Indian Association 1874. 6. Journal of the National Indian Association Nos. 49 to 52, 1875. 7. Beerbala Nataka. 8. Bunga Mohila, a monthly Journal in Bengali. Vol. II. No. 3. for Asar, 1282, B. S. 9. Anubikshan, a medical journal, Vol I. No. 1.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JULY 19, 1875.

THE ROOT OF THE BARODA BLUNDER.

THE correspondence contained in the Baroda Blue-books confirms our conviction more than ever that the continuance of Col. Phayre as the representative of our Government in the Court of the Gaekwar was the root of the Baroda blunder. Even the Bombay Government is constrained to admit that "the very qualities which made Col. Phayre an effective instrument for the exposure of the gross mismanagement of the Baroda State, were ill-adapted to the more delicate task of proffering advice to the Prince whose mal-practices he had dragged to light." And yet the Bombay Government had all along shielded and supported him, and the Government of India, in giving Mulhar Rao eighteen months' grace, told His Highness to look up to him as his friend, philosopher and guide. How the gallant Colonel was disposed to the Gaekwar and his Dewan Mr. Dadabhai Nowroji is abundantly evident from his letter to the Bombay Government. He connected the Parsi gentleman with the abuses in the administration of Baroda on what grounds we are not aware of. In a letter dated the 15th August 1874 he wrote to the Bombay Government: "Considering our experience of Mr. Dadabhai's connection with the Baroda State since the close of the year 1872, and his invariable line of conduct towards the British Government, we should, I think, be incurring a very grave responsibility were we formally to recognize Mr. Dadabhai as Dewan, thereby virtually approving the Gaekwar's selection of him and his party to carry out a work of reform, which we have reason to believe from the events of the past 8 or 9 months they are entirely incapable of effecting." He lets the cat out of the bag in the following:

"I have already shown at various times since April 1873 that Mr. Dadabhai was the principal adviser of the present Gaekwar at the close of 1872 when his contumacious conduct in refusing to attend His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General's Durbar in Bombay elicited the displeasure of the Bombay Government, an example like that being set by one of the principal Native Princes in India, no doubt had a very bad political effect at the time, and is still remembered by many; and there can also be no doubt from what has since occurred at Baroda, that it has exercised a baneful effect upon the character of Mulharao Gaekwar ever since.

Subsequent to that Mr. Dadabhai wrote the precedences khureets for His Highness, and under various pretences

persuaded the weak-minded Mulharao to appoint him his Agent in England to conduct that and other imaginary cases of grievance, and it should be especially noted that whilst Mr. Dadabhai was at Baroda at that period, he was both openly and secretly aided in his designs by the then Parsee head clerk of the Baroda Residency Office establishment.

Having secured Rs. 50,000 from the Gaekwar for these supposed good services, Mr. Dadabhai went to England in about April 1873, but returned to Baroda in the following December, and has been here ever since.

My reports give a sketch of Mr. Dadabhai's career as Dewan of the Baroda State from the 24th of December 1873 up to the present time, during which time I submit that several of the khureets which he has written, notably those in the Luxmeebai case, contain ample proof of his unfitness for the office of Dewan of such a State as Baroda. Super-added to these proofs, however, there is the deliberate neglect of the recommendations of the Commission for eight months, the increasing injustice done to British subjects, the continued oppression of the ryots, the systematic resistance to all reasonable demands of the British Government as represented in the large number of cases still pending: there is the neglect to take notice of Government references of the most urgent kind; there is the injury done to our trade and the direct act of disrespect shown to the Resident in the opium case; and there are others also in which we have exercised forbearance under the hope that as soon as the decision of the Government of India upon the Commission Report arrived a change for the better would take place.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General's khureeta of the 25th ultimo was delivered by me to His Highness on the 3rd instant, but instead of a change for the better manifesting itself, one of the first efforts of Mr. Dadabhai and his party was to turn the advice contained therein to their own account by endeavouring to induce the Gaekwar to sign an agreement to the general effect that the administration should be placed in their hands for a certain period. This I am given to understand the Maharajah declined to do, upon which Mr. Dadabhai and his party threatened to leave Baroda. I was then consulted as to the advisability of retaining Mr. Dadabhai in power, and I at once replied that he ought to be allowed to depart. I at the same time pointed out how a good provisional Government could be organized, pending the selection by His Highness of a suitable Minister. Dadabhai upon this took into his counsels the notorious Damodar Punt, the present favourite of the Gaekwar, the panderer to his grossest vices, the oppressor of women, &c., and the unfortunate result has been that the Maharajah decided in favour of Mr. Dadabhai and his party.

On the 10th instant I commenced giving the authoritative advice of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General as conveyed in my yad No. CI, advising that the Dewan Nana Sahib, &c., should be removed from employment.

Scarcely had this advice been given to His Highness than I was pressed as already reported in my letter No. 255-857, dated 13th August 1874, to permit Nana Sahib, the ex-Dewan, to receive the honours due to a Pritinidhi. The request itself being insulting to the British Government as evincing a deliberate desire to promote the man to greater honour than His Excellency the Viceroy had advised his being deprived of, and this too whilst the impression as first made by the khureeta was still fresh.

Having been foiled in this manoeuvre, Mr. Dadabhai commenced his correspondence with me in the yad No. 1434, which I forwarded to Government yesterday, with my report of the same date, wherein it has been shown how Mr. Dadabhai followed up his system of insulting the Resident, and endeavouring to rid himself and his master of his advice in all matters connected with the thorough and lasting reform to be carried out.

Such being briefly our experience of Mr. Dadabhai's measures as an administrator, even since the receipt of His Excellency the Viceroy's khureeta I respectfully submit that, so far from our being able to confer military honours upon him, and recommend his continued employment by the Gaekwar, it would be absolutely subversive of our own proposals for reform, our own interests, as well as our own honour and dignity, were we to do so in the face of the actual facts on record; on the contrary, we are bound, I submit, to caution His Highness that a man who has proved himself hitherto to be so bad an adviser, and so utterly devoid of all weight in the State, cannot possibly initiate or carry out that thorough and lasting reform upon which the present Gaekwar has been solemnly assured that his tenure of sovereign power depends."

Such was the attitude which Col. Phayre had assumed towards the Reform Ministry of Baroda as it was called. The Bombay Government thus noticed Col. Phayre's letter alluded to above, and some other letters of the same tenour:

"The prompt manner in which the Gaekwar caused the officers objected to resign the offices deserved recognition, and His Excellency in Council cannot but regret the strong terms in which you objected to his very natural wish to break the fall of one of them, his brother-in-law, Nana Sahib Khanvelkar, to whom he has always shown much attachment, by conferring on him the honorary title of Pritinidhi, without, as he positively assured you, entrusting to him any administrative functions. Such an arrangement, if really carried out, would not be contrary to the spirit of the advice given by the Government of India, and it would have been sufficient: if you had confined your opposition to impressing on the Gaekwar the dangerous results that would ensue to himself, if, in violation of his pledges, he permitted Nana Sahib Khanvelkar to become the instrument of further misgovernment. It will still be well for you to take an opportunity of making an intimation to the Gaekwar that the Government will not object to his conferring this honorary title, although they cannot authorize any greater honour being in consequence paid to Nana Sahib Khanvelkar than those to which he may now be entitled as Sir Soobah.

Referring to the Gaekwar's yad of the 14th instant, the use of the word "toom" as addressed to you was undoubtedly disrespectful, and His Excellency in Council desires to know the result of your request to the Gaekwar for its rectification. But the objection taken by you to the concluding sentence of the yad, in which the Gaekwar courteously acknowledges your offer of advice, and promises to apply for it on necessity arising, was, in the opinion of Government,

most unreasonable. It is difficult to see what other answer the Gaekwar could have been expected to give, and your rejoinder, that in many matters he would have to listen to your advice, whether he requested it or not, of which he had been already informed in sufficiently peremptory terms, was uncalled for.

The report of your opposition to the appointment of Mr. Dadabhai Nowrojee as Dewan, as expressed by you to the Gaekwar and some of his officers, and your protest to Government against according to him the military honours customarily paid to the Dewan, and in fact any recognition whatever on the part of Government, have been read by His Excellency in Council with the greatest surprise. You have been made acquainted in the clearest language with the determination of Government not to fetter the Gaekwar in the choice of his Minister, but to look only to the result of his choice. Wholly ignoring the instructions, you have placed yourself in a position of such decided hostility to the Dewan, whom the Gaekwar has appointed, as to impede most seriously the cordial co-operation of the Minister and yourself, in carrying out the administrative reforms which it is the sole object of the Government to induce. His Highness to effect.

The Government are fully sensible of the distinction between the authoritative advice which you are directed to give in certain matters, and the friendly advice which you are to give in the matters about which the Gaekwar may consult you. And it has not escaped observation that the Gaekwar consulted you on the expediency of appointing Mr. Dadabhai as his Dewan. But His Excellency in Council cannot admit that you can divest yourself of your public character in your friendly more than in your authoritative communications; and you were bound to say nothing under the former head which would be in any way contrary to the spirit of your instructions. The expression of your determined personal opposition to Mr. Dadabhai was, in the opinion of His Excellency in Council, inconsistent with the order that the Gaekwar should be left free to appoint his own Minister, besides being injudicious in view of the possibility that Mr. Dadabhai might be appointed in spite of your advice. I am also to notice as injudicious your observation to R. S. Bapooibhai and Govindrao Mama reported in paragraph 4 of your letter No. 255 of 13th August. "That if this was the kind of reform His Highness was going to carry out under Mr. Dadabhai's administration, it could end only in one result, and that very shortly."

His Excellency in Council is much concerned to find in these transactions a most serious misapprehension of the actual position of affairs, and of the line of conduct you have been ordered by the Government of India and this Government to pursue."

And yet this officer was kept in power, and fair play was denied to the Gaekwar and his Minister. Could there be a greater blunder than this? It was a pity that Col. Phayre was not removed after the first Commission. The subsequent complications would not have arisen, if his removal had been ordered in time.

THE FIRST BARODA BLUNDER AGGRAVATED BY DOUBLE GOVERNMENT.

THE first Baroda blunder was aggravated by Double Government. The strings were being pulled on one side at Bombay and on the other at Calcutta. The censure which was passed upon Colonel Phayre by the Bombay Government in August 1874 was not communicated to the Government of India until the middle of November and the latter was consequently unable to take action earlier. The Government of India addressed the Government of Bombay on the 25th November in the following terms:

"The Governor-General in Council regrets to have to point out to the Government of Bombay serious public inconvenience has been caused by the delay which has occurred in furnishing the Government of India with full information as to their proceedings, and those of Colonel Phayre. The delay is the more to be regretted as the subject was one of first-rate importance, which had been referred to the Bombay Government for the orders of the Government of India, and upon which instructions have been issued by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council.

Although the most important communications between Colonel Phayre, the Baroda Durbar, and the Bombay Government, took place in the month of August, it was not till the 19th of November that the Government of India was put in possession of full information of those transactions.

The Governor-General in Council considers that the course taken by the Government of Bombay was not suited to the gravity of the situation, that their notice of Colonel Phayre's conduct although proper so far as it went, was inadequate, and that it was their duty to have kept the Government of India fully and promptly informed of everything of importance that occurred at Baroda.

During the present critical circumstances, therefore His Excellency in Council considers it desirable that all orders required for the purpose of carrying out the instructions of the 25th July consequent on the Report of the Baroda Commission shall in future be given by the Government of India. Sir Lewis Pelly has, therefore, been instructed to communicate directly with the Government of India on those matters, forwarding at the same time duplicates of his letters to the Government of Bombay. His Excellency in Council will be glad to receive from the Government of Bombay any observations which that Government may desire to make on those communications, and he desires to avail himself of the advice and assistance of the Bombay Government on such matters especially as affect the reform of the interior administration of the State of Baroda.

Sir Lewis Pelly has been instructed to communicate directly with the Bombay Government in the same manner as the Resident at Baroda has hitherto been accustomed to do on all other matters relating to the affairs of the Baroda State.

His Excellency in Council relies upon the Bombay Government to give such instructions to their officers as will secure

every assistance being rendered to Sir Lewis Pelly in the performance of the duties with which he is entrusted."

The Government of Bombay addressed an intemperate and insubordinate reply to the Government of India, which we need not quote, as the despatch of the Secretary of State does ample justice to the subject. We give this despatch *in extenso* :

"MY LORD, — Para 1. I have received and considered in Council the letter of your Excellency's Government in this Department, No. 213, dated the 27th November last, reporting the removal of Colonel Phayre from the office of Resident at Baroda, the appointment of Sir Lewis Pelly as Agent to the Governor-General and Special Commissioner at that place, and the arrangements which you had deemed advisable to make for the future conduct of the correspondence relating to measures arising out of the Report of the Baroda Commission. I have also had before me a letter from the Government of Bombay, No. 73, dated the 14th December last, inviting my attention to that address by His Excellency the Governor in Council to your Government, setting forth various objections to your decisions on the several matters in question, and I have recently received your further letters, No. 25, of the 29th January last, forwarding, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, copy of the reply made by you to that communication, and a letter from the Government of Bombay dated 15th of February, commenting on your reply.

After careful examination of the circumstances detailed in this correspondence, and weighing, with the attention due to their importance, the argument submitted in it for my consideration, I have to convey to you my approval of your proceedings.

While regretting that your Excellency's Government should have found it necessary to remove from the responsible post of Resident at Baroda an officer of undoubted integrity and long service, who had been placed in a position of considerable difficulty, I have no doubt that in doing so you exercised a wise discretion. His character was little fitted for the delicate duties with which he had been recently charged, and his departure from the orders he had received was too serious to be overlooked.

It is to be regretted that his removal did not take place as soon as his indisposition or inability to shape his conduct according to his instructions was first manifested. A fair trial would then have been given to the indulgent policy which Her Majesty's Government was anxious to pursue towards the Gaekwar of Baroda. A different opinion, however, was formed by the Government of Bombay, under whose immediate orders Colonel Phayre was serving. They were fully alive to his shortcomings, and censured them in the severe language recapitulated in para. 7 of your Excellency's Despatch. But they abstained from removing him, on grounds connected as much with the interests of the officer himself as with his efficiency for the duties he had to discharge.

In addressing your Excellency's Government, on the 14th December last, the Government of Bombay said, —

"Para. 5. So fully alive were the Government of Bombay to the incidents of his position that, even after receiving the instructions of His Excellency the Viceroy, and learning that Phayre possessed his full confidence, they transferred the charge of the Residency to other hands, and his appointment of equal worth had been at the employment of Colonel Phayre."

His Excellency in Council would have taken the conviction that the very qualities which made Phayre an effective instrument for the exposure of mismanagement of the Baroda State were ill adapted to the delicate task of proffering advice to the Gaekwar, who had dragged to light."

The peculiarities of Colonel Phayre's personal character, and of the position in which he stood to the Gaekwar, have been manifested throughout, and must have been as patent to the Government of India when they issued orders on the Commission's Report in July as they are now; and had they at that time suggested and facilitated his transfer to another appointment of equal value, or otherwise compensated him, this Government would most cordially have assented, for the reasons mentioned in the 5th and 6th paragraphs and the change would have recommended itself to Colonel Phayre as well as to the Public. But the order now issued is, in the opinion of this Government, unjustly severe on an officer whose conscientious and praiseworthy efforts had brought about the beneficial intervention of the British Government for the protection of the people of Baroda."

I shall refer again to the grounds of action here put forward, in their general bearing upon the public service. To the decision, however, at which the Government of Bombay arrived, that it was expedient to censure Colonel Phayre but not to remove him, no blame could have been attached if they had at once modified it, together with the circumstances out of which it arose, to your Excellency's Government. They did not do so. The correspondence was not at once forwarded to you. It was only accidentally called for, and the proceedings which it recorded were for the first time brought to your knowledge nearly three months after they had occurred.

Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that in withholding from you this information the Government of Bombay acted under misconception of their duty. In a matter which was obviously of the utmost gravity, and which the Governor-General had stamped with that character by his formal interposition, the Government of Bombay were bound to act as the simple agent of the Government of India.

In the 13th paragraph of their letter of the 14th of December, the Government of Bombay give the only explanation they have offered for omitting to report the correspondence: —

"The appointment of Resident at Baroda belongs by law to this Government. The retention of it by Colonel Phayre was a matter for them to decide, on which the Government of India had maintained silence. This Government felt strongly both the impolicy as regards the Gaekwar, and the injustice as regards Colonel Phayre, of summarily removing him from office without compensation. And having permitted him to return to Baroda, it did not occur to them that it was necessary to report immediately to the Government of India the very stringent instructions he had received and which, it was hoped, he could no longer misapprehend."

These words seem to imply that a zeal for the prerogatives of the Presidency of Bombay had a material share in determining the action of that Government. I have to express the regret of Her Majesty's Government that, in a matter so grave,

the Governor and Council of Bombay should have allowed their minds to be swayed by motives of a secondary character.

It is the duty of Her Majesty's Government to uphold the minor Presidencies in the position assigned to them by law, their Governments are entitled to remonstrate against any supposed infringement of their rights, though it is a privilege of which these Governments will, if they have the interests of the public service at heart, make use with due reserve. But the feelings which actuate their remonstrances must not influence their administrative proceedings. Zeal for local rights will not excuse them in any act or any omission unbefitting a subordinate acting under the command of a superior. They cannot be permitted, in the process of their self-defence to hamper the working of State policy. When the Governor-General has decided that a matter is sufficiently serious to demand his interposition, the duty of the inferior Governments is not only to obey his formal orders, but to second his policy as cordially as if it were their own.

Your Excellency has adverted to the reasons put forward by the Government of Bombay in their letter of the 14th of December for objecting to the removal of Colonel Phayre. You notice, in terms of just reprobation, the doctrine that a Resident, after his disqualification for his post had been recognized, was to remain entrusted with duties of great importance and singular delicacy, because "no other appointment of equal value was at the disposal of the Government." You could have spoken in no other manner of the language that was then before you. Later explanations given by the Government of Bombay in their letter of the 15th of February indicate that the earlier letter did not adequately represent their real opinion. Individual interests are probably as highly considered in the Indian service as in any service in the world. But no Government can allow such interests to delay, even for a brief period, the removal of an officer charged with momentous duties and proved to be unequal to their performance. I conclude, from the language and action of the Government of Bombay, that they did not discern, in its true light, the gravity of the circumstances with which they had to deal.

I desire that a copy of this Despatch may be communicated to the Government of Bombay. — I have, &c.,

SALISBURY.

Nothing could be more explicit and satisfactory than the despatch of the Secretary of State. It is clear from the above that the Gaekwar had no fair play under Colonel Phayre. "It is to be regretted," says Lord Salisbury, "that his (Colonel Phayre's) removal did not take place as soon as his indisposition and inability to shape his conduct according to his instruction was first made manifest. A fair trial would then have been given to the indulgent policy which Her Majesty's Government was anxious to pursue towards the Gaekwar of Baroda." Such being the case, how does his Lordship reconcile with this statement his despatch of June sentencing the Gaekwar to deposition on the ground of continued misgovernment? The personal character of Mulhar Rao was well known before eighteen months' grace had been allowed, and the object of the "indulgent policy" was to give him an opportunity to reclaim himself. It is admitted that a fair trial was not given to him under Colonel Phayre and under the Double Government, of which he was the victim, and yet he has been deposed on the assumption that there was no sign for improvement in his conduct. Could anything be more inconsistent than this?

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S EXPLANATION.

IN APRIL last Lord Northbrook recorded a minute reviewing the Baroda policy. It contains a full and calm statement of the motives which guided His Lordship in this unfortunate matter from the beginning to the end. We admit that until the last act of the Baroda drama the Government of India dealt with Mulhar Rao "in a spirit of perfect impartiality." No one denies that Baroda was fearfully misgoverned and that Mulhar Rao was utterly incompetent to wield the sceptre. But the question is has the Government been consistent in its "indulgent policy?" The abuses in the administration of Baroda were so notorious that the Government was perfectly justified in appointing the first Commission. The report of the Commission, His Excellency the Governor-General observes, shewed a condition of things which was highly discreditable to Mulhar Rao, and which contained the elements of serious disturbance, which, owing to the manner in which the territories of the British Government and the Gaekwar are intermingled, might have been greatly prejudicial to the interests of British subjects and to the peace and order of Her Majesty's dominions. The Commissioners expressed their opinion that in the summary and extensive reduction of Silladars and Sirdars, in the treatment of certain bankers, in the seizure of women to render forced service in the Palace, in the treatment of the late Gaekwar's relatives, favorites, and dependants, and in the arbitrary resumption of certain inams and hereditary emoluments, the

proceedings of Mulhar Rao had been highly arbitrary, and in some instances very unjust, and of a character calculated to bring grave discredit on His Highness' administration, and to excite distrust and alarm amongst a large portion of the influential and respectable classes of the community. They further reported that the grievances of the agricultural classes required careful examination and consideration; that the existing practice of levying nuzzerana (a succession tax) on appointments was wholly inconsistent with good government and should be entirely relinquished and interdicted; that the practice of ill-treating accused persons or prisoners to extract confession obtained to some extent and demanded the most watchful efforts for its absolute suppression; that the judicial department and administration required entire reform, in order to remove the existing uncertain and irregular application of the law and want of confidence in the proceedings of the courts and magistrates; and that the state of affairs, when viewed altogether, constituted general maladministration of a character urgently calling for reformation which could not be effected without some interference on the part of the British Government. Instead of at once deposing the Gaekwar the Governor-General in Council resolved to give him eighteen months' grace to put his house in order. So far so good. This was an act of forbearance, which the Gaekwar did not certainly deserve. But having adopted this "indulgent policy," the Government of India ought to have given him a fair trial. But we have seen from the correspondence noticed above that a fair trial, as admitted by the Secretary of State, was not possible under Col. Phayre. The Government of India, however, at once removed the Resident as soon as his incapacity was known. That he had not been removed earlier was entirely due to the contumacy of the Bombay Government; if his removal had been decided in time, there would have been, as it should now seem, no poisoning case, no opposition to the Resident, for Sir Lewis Pelly stated that the Gaekwar was perfectly willing to take his advice and to reform, no trial of Mulhar Rao, no scandal of a division in the Commission, no difference between the Government of India and Her Majesty's Government as to the grounds for the policy to be pursued towards the Gaekwar, no deposition, no alarm among native princes, and no popular excitement.

At this point a question arises whether the Government of India should have moved the vast machinery of the state for a solemn enquiry, into the poisoning charge against the Gaekwar upon the report of an officer, who was notoriously not on the best of terms with His Highness, and who was apparently too excited to be able to form a just and impartial judgment. The Governor-General says that "the recommendation of the Government of India that Mulhar Rao should be deposed was based upon the fact of his remaining subject, under the most favorable view that could be taken of the circumstances to a grave suspicion of having instigated the attempt to murder Col. Phayre, coupled with his previous character and antecedents." Now his "previous character and antecedents" had been condoned by the grant of eighteen months' grace, and if there was "a grave suspicion" against Mulhar Rao as regards the poisoning charge, the benefit of the doubt according to the humane spirit of the English law should at any rate have been given to him. The Governor-General thus reconciles his decision with that of the Secretary of State:

"Her Majesty's Government decided that Mulhar Rao, together with his issue, should be deposed from the Sovereignty of Baroda, and sanctioned all the proposals with respect to the re-establishment of a native administration in that state which were made by the Government of India. Her Majesty's Government, however, directed that the deposition of Mulhar Rao should not be based upon the inquiry and report of the Commission, but upon general grounds. The Government of India reviewed the conduct of Mulhar Rao since the report of Sir Richard Meade's Commission, and were so satisfied of the justice and propriety of not replacing Mulhar Rao in power, apart from the result of the recent inquiry, that they did not hesitate to act upon the instructions which they had received. Accordingly, in the proclamation which announced the deposition of Mulhar Rao, it was stated that Her Majesty's Government had not based their decision on the inquiry or report of the Commission, and that they had not assumed that the result of the inquiry had been to prove the truth of the imputations against Mulhar Rao.

It may be alleged, in opposition to the course that has been adopted, that, if, Mulhar Rao has been justly deposed upon general grounds, he should have been deposed either

upon the receipt of the report of Sir R. Meade's Commission, or at some other time before the inquiry before Sir Richard Couch's Commission was concluded. But a review of the circumstances in the order in which they occurred will show that the Government of India could not consistently with the forbearance which they considered it to be both right and expedient to exercise in dealing with Mulhar Rao, have recommended his deposition at any former time.

Sir Richard Meade's Commission did not recommend Mulhar Rao's deposition, neither did the Government of Bombay, through whom their report was brought under the consideration of the Government of India. The evidence was not considered by the Government of India to be sufficient in itself to justify the adoption of so extreme a measure. At the same time the charges of mis-government proved against Mulhar Rao were very grave; his personal character was seriously compromised; and he was distinctly warned that he would be deposed if he did not take advantage of the period of grace then given to him. Her Majesty's Government approved of the manner in which Mulhar Rao was then dealt with. I am satisfied that the action which was taken was just and sufficient, and that it was so considered at the time by all those who were in a position to give a sound opinion upon the subject.

In the interval between the report of Sir Richard Meade's Commission and Mulhar Rao's suspension from power, several instances undoubtedly occurred in which he gravely misconducted himself. There were his marriage with Luxmibai; his treatment of Ruckmabai the younger widow of his brother; and his quarrels with his Sirdars. In consequence, however, of Colonel Phayre's proceedings, which eventually led to his removal from Baroda the Government of India felt themselves compelled to accept his reports of Mulhar Rao's misconduct with some qualification, and up to the time of the serious attempt to take the life of Colonel Phayre the Government of India did not think that sufficient reasons existed to make it desirable for them to reconsider their decision granting to Mulhar Rao a period of grace. On looking back to the circumstances as they were then known, apart from subsequent events, I am satisfied that the deposition of Mulhar Rao during this period would have been regarded as showing a pre-determination on the part of the Government of India to remove Mulhar Rao, and a refusal to allow him the opportunity which had been promised him for reforming the administration of Baroda.

A second warning was given to Mulhar Rao when Sir Lewis Pelly was appointed to succeed Colonel Phayre. Sir Lewis Pelly, on his arrival at Baroda, described the state of affairs to be very critical, as has been mentioned in paragraph 7 of this Minute. At the same time he did not suggest that Mulhar Rao should be then deposed. He reported that Mulhar Rao professed his readiness to accept his advice—had indeed accepted it upon some matters, and so far as he could judge, sincerely desired to reform the administration. Although, after what had previously occurred, the Government of India could attach but little value to such professions there were certainly at that time no sufficient reasons for deviating from the course which had before been adopted and announced to Mulhar Rao, namely, that he should still have the benefit of the period of grace originally given to him, together with every assistance which could be afforded to him by Sir Lewis Pelly.

We are constrained to say that Lord Northbrook argues against himself in the above. If upon a review of the circumstances of the case the Government of India could not consistently with the forbearance which they considered it to be both right and expedient to exercise in dealing with Mulhar Rao, have recommended his deposition at any former time—the reference is made to the time of the First Commission—and if after Sir Lewis Pelly's appointment there were certainly at that time no sufficient reasons for deviating from the course which had before been adopted and announced to Mulhar Rao, namely, that he should still have the benefit of the period of grace originally given to him, together with every assistance which could be afforded to him by Sir Lewis Pelly, we cannot understand with what consistency has the Government of India subscribed to the Secretary of State's general reasons for passing the sentence of deposition. Here the Governor General is wholly inconsistent. He was consistent in so far as His Excellency held the Gaekwar guilty of the poisoning charge, but Her Majesty's Government have rejected the verdict of the European members of the Commission on that point. The difference between the Government of India and the Secretary of State on this point is so glaring that we are surprised that the Viceroy should have attempted to reconcile it. We admit that substantial justice has been done to the people of Baroda by the deposition of Mulhar Rao, but the policy of the Government has been tortuous and inconsistent. All who have had a hand in this unfortunate business have burnt their fingers.

THE STATE LANDLORD IN BOMBAY.

THERE is a class of economists in this country, who argue that state landlordism is a panacea for the ills, to which ryot flesh is heir to. The State is the *ma bap* of the people, and takes a paternal interest in their welfare. But curiously enough wherever the State is the landlord the people are on a dead level of poverty. Ryotwarry Madras lives from hand to mouth. It is one mass of pauperism. In the North West it is the same,

The ancient landlords have been almost swept away; the levelling settlement has reduced them or their representatives to the position of mere cottiers; the vast majority of them find it hard to make the two ends meet; some of them, driven to desperation, joined the ranks of the mutineers in '57; and we believe we do not exaggerate when we say that if there is any body of people, who are really disaffected, it is the ousted proprietors in Northern India. In the Punjab the same system of grinding settlement is going on, and because one Settlement Commissioner could not reconcile it to his conscience to pile burdens upon the devoted head of the unfortunate owner of land, his place was made too hot for him and he had to retire. Bombay was held up as a model province. How often did not Mr. Knight and writers of his school compare Bombay with Bengal, and discourse on the happiness of the Bombay ryot. This was when cotton was a convertible term with gold. But those golden days have passed away; the cotton harvests are no longer fabulously paying; the value of land has fallen, and the ryots naturally enough cry against the crushing assessment. The Government of Bombay last year made enquiries, and was satisfied of the truth of the ryots' complaints; it ordered a reduction of assessment, but we are afraid its resolution has remained a dead letter, for if the desired relief had been given there would have been no riots or disturbances. These disturbances it is remarkable have taken place in the three districts of the Poona Collectorate, where the reduction had been ordered, and although they have been directed against the money-lenders, they are, so far as we can judge, chiefly due to over-assessment. The money-lenders, it is true, charge exorbitant interest, and the courts help them in their rapacious demands, but the ryots would not fall into their hands if they had enough to live upon. The money-lender, however greedy, is the only stay of the ryot; he supplies him with the means of meeting the Government demand, of defraying his domestic expenses, whenever there is a deficiency in his scanty funds and of procuring food when there is a scarcity of it. We take from a Poona paper an account of an agrarian disturbance in that district:

"The Soopa Riots.—We recently alluded to the recent agrarian disturbances in some of the districts of the Poona Collectorate, caused by the excitement produced amongst the agricultural population owing to the increased land assessments, and the extortions of the village buniyas. *Inter alia* we may here notice that a serious riot occurred at Soopa, a market-town in the Bhimthurry Talooka, on the 12th May last, when about a dozen money-lenders' houses were absolutely gutted of their contents by an infuriated mob, one house was burnt down, bonfires were made in the streets, in which the sowcar's books, bonds, &c. were consumed, and it is not even yet known what was the value of the property thus looted and destroyed, although it must have been very large. Several cart-loads of it were produced before Mr. Norman, the District Magistrate of Poona, when he visited the place immediately after the occurrence of the riot, and as much more has been found in the prickly-pear hedges and wells surrounding the town. Mr. Norman spent several days in judicially inquiring into this serious affair, and has sentenced a large number of persons, resident in Soopa, to various terms of imprisonment and found on their conviction to having stolen property in their possession knowing it to have been stolen. A good many others charged with rioting have also been convicted and punished by Mr. Norman, the sentences in all these cases being comparatively mild, although some of the offenders cannot be brought to see the matter in this light, and has appealed against his decision to the Sessions Judge, who will take up their appeals *seriatim* on Monday next, the 21st instant."

A contemporary says that "not only police, but native troops have had to be sent to restore order, and it was mentioned the other day in a newsletter that the jails at Ahmednuggur were filled to overflowing with unfortunate ryots who had been apprehended as rioters." "The ominous fact of the usually contented Bombay cultivator," continues the writer, "having resorted to open violence does not lose much of its significance, notwithstanding that the turbulence has mainly expended itself as yet on the local money-lenders. No doubt, the District Courts are often to blame for the unintelligent, machine-like fashion in which they pass decrees for plaintiff in suits for money lent; but impartial observers in Western India assure us that, while chronic poverty and pecuniary dependence on the Bunnias and Marwaris have of late years been the normal condition of the Deccan ryot, the deciding and proximate cause of these recent rural commotions was the imposition of the new assessments." The

following figures furnished by our contemporary shew how the new Survey and Settlement have had the effect of crushing the ryot. In one instance, we are told, the new assessment, which is spread over an area of 204,135 acres against 176,104 according to the old Survey, is shewn as assessed to yield an aggregate of Rs. 1,52,118 as compared with Rs. 76,862, the actual collection in 1871, a year before the new Survey. These figures are equivalent to an enhancement of 98 per cent. Finally the enhancement was concluded at 75 per cent. In addition to land revenue proper, there is the local "cess" of one anna in the rupee of the assessment which amounts to an aggregate of nearly Rs. 10,000 in three districts. Then the "free grazing lands," which had never before been assessed, have been included in the new Survey and Settlement, and the ryots are consequently filled with discontent.

The above facts sufficiently indicate the seat of the disease among the ryots of Bombay. It is not the extortionate demands of the money-lender, though they are bad enough, but it is the exorbitant assessment of land, which lies at the root of the evil. It may be said that when the ryot turns from the State landlord to the money-lender, he flies from the frying pan to the fire. True, but if he had not been put into the frying pan, he would not have sought to fly into the fire. It is because the Government assessment is so high and unbearable, because the ryot has not means to meet it, he has recourse to the money-lender, who is heartless enough to take advantage of his unfortunate position. But this is the way of this wicked world—the rich prey over the poor and the strong over the weak. Would, however, the money-lender have an opportunity to gratify his cupidity, if the Government assessment had not pauperized the ryot, and made him the bond-man of the bania?

It is time we submit that the Government of India should interfere. In October last the Government of Bombay had published a Resolution for the reduction of assessment, but in June or within eight months it has been called upon to send troops to preserve peace and order in the very districts in which the reduction had been ordered. Surely there is something rotten in the state of Denmark. We are of opinion that the Government of India should appoint a Commission of Enquiry into the condition of the people in Bombay. We would not have a local Commission, for the Local Government has been weighed in the balance and found wanting. We want an independent Commission from the Government of India. Such a Commission would be free from local bias, and would consequently command the confidence of the people.

BURMA.

THE interest, which Burman affairs have of late attracted, induces us to review the relations of our Government with the King of Burma. Sir Arthur Phayre when he was in Burma submitted a report, from which we take the main-facts. Sir Arthur says that no real Treaty existed between the British Government in India and the King of Burma, until that of Yandaboo, which was concluded on the 24th February 1826. At the period when the British in India represented a trading body and not a sovereign power, Deputations were occasionally sent from the Governors of the Settlements both in Bengal and Madras to establish trade with Burmese territory. Factories were erected at Syrian, near Rangoon, and at Negrais. In 1757 a Treaty is said to have been made with the Burmese Government. The Chief of the English Factory at Negrais deputed Ensign Lester to the capital of Burmah. He had an interview with King Alompra, the founder of the existing dynasty, by whom the Island of Negrais, and some ground near the Town of Bassein, were granted to the East India Company. It is not known that any copy of this so-called Treaty is now in existence. Afterwards the English at Negrais were treacherously killed; but a second grant of land, for the erection of a Factory at Bassein, was subsequently made by the Burmese Government. The first direct political intercourse between the British and Burmese Governments appears to have been when Captain Michael Symes was deputed by

the Governor-General as Envoy to the Court of Ava in 1795, for the purpose of strengthening the Political and Commercial relations of the British Government with the Court of Ava, and of preventing the French from gaining a footing in Burmah. Captain Symes obtained a Royal Order whereby permission was given for a British Agent or Superintendent to reside at Rangoon, to protect the interests of British subjects, and arrangements were made for the protection of trade. In virtue of that arrangement Captain Cox was appointed Superintendent, and he landed at Rangoon in October 1796. He proceeded to the capital to deliver certain presents to the King, which had been formerly promised by Captain Symes. He was, however, treated with much contumely. Eventually he returned to Rangoon and left for Bengal at the latter end of 1797. About this time there began some disputes on the border between Arakan and Chittagong. The Burmese had conquered Arakan in 1782. The Arakanese rebelled, and about the year 1797 numbers of them began to take refuge in the Chittagong district. The Burmese Governor of Arakan wrote during 1798, and demanded in an insolent manner that the fugitives should be given up. The Governor-General, the Marquis of Wellesley, then determined to send another Embassy to the Court of Ava. Captain, now Colonel, Symes was again selected. He proceeded to the capital. There he obtained merely a verbal assurance that no further demand would be made for the Arakanese fugitives. The King would make no apology for the style in which the demand had been made, nor enter into any new engagement. Colonel Symes returned to Rangoon, where he was not treated with ordinary civility by the Governor, and he left for Bengal in January 1803. After this Captain Canning was deputed to Rangoon, apparently as the representative of Colonel Symes, to endeavour to obtain some apology from the Burmese Court for their past insolence, and to ascertain if the French were establishing any interest in Burmah. Captain Canning in consequence of the overbearing conduct of the local Authorities at Rangoon, was before long obliged to leave the country. In the year 1809 Captain Canning was again deputed to Rangoon as Agent to the Governor-General. The object appears to have been to enter into explanations regarding the blockade of the Isle of France, which interfered with the trade of Rangoon to that Island. Captain Canning proceeded to the capital, and was well received. Having accomplished the object in view, Captain Canning returned to Bengal. In the year 1811 the Arakanese having once rebelled, and many of them having fled to the district of Chittagong, disputes again occurred on that Frontier. An Arakanese Chief collected a body of his countrymen in the hilly parts of the Chittagong district, and marched into Arakan to attack the Burmese. Captain Canning was deputed to the Court of Ava to explain that this movement was neither instigated nor supported by the British Government, and also to complain outrages to British subjects perpetrated with the sanction of the Burmese Authorities in Arakan. In the meantime the Burmese Troops in Arakan had followed the Arakanese rebels into British territory, and orders were sent down from the Burmese Court to the Governor of Rangoon to make Captain Canning prisoner, and retain him as a hostage for the delivery of the Arakanese rebels. Captain Canning was fortunately safe from violence by being on board a ship-of-war, with an armed ship in company. He left Rangoon in August 1811. Subsequently to that year the Burmese officers in Arakan more than once made demands for the surrender of Arakanese refugees, and even made pretensions to the sovereignty of Bengal, as far as the City of Moorshedabad, as territory pertaining to the Kingdom of Arakan. In 1819 they interfered in Assam, and in 1824 they invaded Cachar. In the meantime, on the Arakan side, the Burmese had been encroaching; they had arrested the elephant-hunters employed by the British Government, and finally they claimed the Island of Shapoorie, situated at the mouth of the River Naf. On the night of 24th September 1823 a strong Burman Force occupied the island, killing a few sepoys of the Provincial Battalion stationed there. The Governor of Arakan also intimated that the island was theirs,

and they intended to keep it. The Governor-General addressed the King of Ava, demanding the dismissal of the Governor of Arakan. No reply was received for some months. The answer which eventually came was probably written in the name of the Hlwothau or Royal Council, and merely stated that the Governors on the Frontier had full powers to act. Thus on every point where the British territory, or the territories of those under British protection, touched the Burmese dominions, aggression and insult had been committed by Burmese Officers, while applications for redress were treated by the Burmese Government either with silent contempt, or with additional insult. War was therefore declared by the Governor-General against Burmah on 5th March 1824. On the 11th May of that year a Force under Sir Archibald Campbell took possession of Rangoon, and after two campaigns Peace was concluded at Yandaboo, about 40 miles distant from the capital, on the 24th February 1826. Under the Treaty of Yandaboo Colonel H. Burney was appointed Resident at the Court of Ava. He arrived there in April 1830. He remained at the Burmese Court until June 1837, when he proceeded to Rangoon, and eventually returned to Bengal. The immediate cause of his leaving was that a revolution occurred, in which the reigning King was deposed, and his brother, the Prince of Tharawaddy, ascended the throne. In 1834 an Agreement was made for the restoration to Burmah of the Kubo Valley, which had been annexed to Munnipore. In 1838 Colonel Benson was deputed to the Court of Burmah to re-establish the friendly relations which had been interrupted. He reached the capital in October 1838. In consequence of the insulting conduct of the Burmese Court, the Resident left Amarapura in 1839. From that time there was no direct official communication between the Governor-General of India and the King of Burmah for several years. In July 1851 Lieutenant-Colonel Bogle, Commissioner of the Tenasserim Provinces, forwarded to the Supreme Government a petition from the Master of a British ship, complaining of gross oppression which he had suffered from the Governor of Rangoon. In November of that year Commodore Lambert was deputed to Rangoon with a letter addressed to the King, in order to obtain redress. But all reparation for the injuries to British subjects was refused. The Governor-General therefore sent a Force to Rangoon, under the command of Major-General Godwin. Rangoon fell to the combined Naval and Military Force on the 14th April 1852. From that time, until 27th January 1853, no communication from the Burmese Government reached the British Commanders. When the combined Forces had reached Meeaday, about 250 miles by the river above Rangoon, a Burmese officer arrived with a letter, announcing that a new King reigned in Amarapura, and expressing his desire for Peace. Early in April the Burmese Woongyee duly empowered reached Prome, but as he refused to sign a Treaty acknowledging the province of Pegu to be British territory, the negotiations were broken off. On both sides, however, it was understood that hostilities were to cease. In the latter end of the year 1854 the Burmese Government deputed two envoys of high rank, and some subordinate officers to convey a complimentary letter and presents from the King to the Most Noble the Marquis of Dalhousie. They were received in Calcutta with distinction, and returned to Burmah at the beginning of the year 1855. The Government of India sent a return Embassy to the Burmese Court in the rainy season of 1855. The Envoy, Major Phayre, was received by the King and Court in the most friendly manner. The King, however, manifested an insuperable aversion to signing any Treaty giving up the Province of Pegu and to this day no treaty has been signed.

It will be thus seen that there is no actual treaty subsisting between the British and Burman Governments except that of 1826 and the Commercial Treaty. The province of Pegu of which our Government has taken possession has passed under the tacit acquiescence of His Majesty

of Mandalay. The position of our Government is thus peculiar. It has to deal with a sovereign who does not conform to the etiquette of civilized intercourse and who has peculiar notions of his own importance. One thing must however, be said in his favor. Since the second Burmese war the King has been generally friendly to our Government. His Majesty has given a fresh proof of his friendliness by actually signing an Agreement acknowledging the independence of the Karanee country.

A NEW ALLY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

BLESSED be the Government of India! It has found a new and powerful ally in the *Indian Statesman* for putting down sedition in the Native Press. That journal, after crying itself hoarse to goad Lord Northbrook into resignation, has diverted its benevolent attention to the Native Press, and, in the exuberance of its kindness, has selected the poor *Patriot* for the display of its ineffable goodness. Words fail us to express our gratitude to this new ally of the Government of India and new censor of the Native Press. Perhaps the reader is curious to know what mortal sin have we committed to merit the tender mercy of this would-be Archangel of Indian journalism. It is this—we wrote last week on Lord Salisbury's Baroda despatch, and in doing so we were foolish enough not to approve of it altogether, though the critic allows that we "couched our disapprobation in loyal terms." Of course he is too considerate to "distress his readers by giving them a resume of the grounds on which the *Patriot* bases its opinion that the wretch who ruled at Baroda should have been allowed to complete his term of probation unfettered," though some may think that it belongs to that species of discretion which is well known to be the better part of valour. We will not "distress our readers" by repeating what we have already written, but perhaps they will not feel "distressed" if they find that the *Times*, since received, argues in the same spirit in which the audacious and "disloyal" *Patriot* did. Here is an extract from the *Times* article we refer to:

"When the case of the Gaekwar is succinctly stated, it is impossible to share the satisfaction expressed by the Government of India, at Calcutta and at home, in reference to it. Up to a certain date the Gaekwar of Baroda is admitted not to have incurred the penalties of deposition. It is, of course, true that no pledge was given that he should not be deposed, and if any new atrocity had been brought home to him his term of probation might have been summarily closed; but, in the language of the Viceroy's Minute, 'a period of eighteen (seventeen?) months ending on the 31st of December, 1875, was allowed to him for effecting the necessary reforms,' and something new ought to be established against the Gaekwar to justify his deposition in April, 1876. Nothing new has been established. Before four out of the eighteen months had elapsed, the charge of poisoning was, indeed, made, but the Indian Government expressly disclaimed having acted upon the assumption that this charge has been proved, and his deposition is justified upon general grounds upon which no judgment would ever have been founded, had the charge not been advanced. Two courses were possible and defensible; the third, which the Government have adopted, seems to lack every ground of justification. It might have been declared that the Governor-General in Council was satisfied that the charge against the Gaekwar had been proved, and therefore deposed him; or that, the charge not having been proved, the Gaekwar was reinstated in the administration of his State, subject to the warning that he would yet be deposed if he did not reform his Government before the end of the year; but to announce a sentence of deposition while disclaiming any assumption that the poisoning charge has been proved appears a position quite untenable, and the justice of excluding the Gaekwar's issue as well as himself from the Sovereignty seems to have been inferred without any consideration. We cannot even say that the Gaekwar was obstinately recalcitrant on the subject of reform. Four months, four very troublous months, had passed, and very little had been done; but Sir Lewis Pelly, who then succeeded the displaced Resident at Baroda, reported that 'the Gaekwar had professed his readiness to accept his advice, and, indeed, accepted it upon some points, and, so far as he could judge, was seriously desirous of reforming his administration.' The recital of the Proclamation, which declares that it is issued out of regard to all the circumstances relating to the affairs of Baroda since the cession of the Gaikwar, 'notorious misconduct, his gross misgovernment of the State, and his evident incapacity to carry into effect the necessary reforms' is negatived by Sir Lewis Pelly's evidence; while the subsequent declaration, that 'it would be [detrimental] to the interests of the people of Baroda and inconsistent with the maintenance of the relations that ought to subsist between the British Government and the Baroda State' that the Gaikwar should be restored, introduces nothing new, unless it involves that assumption of guilt which is expressly disclaimed at the beginning of the Proclamation. Why did the Indian Government hesitate to base their decision on their conviction of the Gaikwar's guilt or to reinstate him? It has been said that to have acted upon their own judgment after the receipt of the Report of the Commission would have been to discredit the appointment of the Commission; but the desire to avoid a practical confession of error should not have betrayed them into a second error. We apprehend the real reason for not basing the Proclamation on the decision that the Gaikwar was guilty is found in the secret feeling that the evidence did not clearly establish his guilt. We may take it as proved that an attempt was made to poison Colonel Phayre,

but the more we realize the condition of Baroda twelve months since the less confidence can we put in the evidence against the Guikwar. The relations between the Prince and the Resident were such that it must have appeared to many an unscrupulous Courtier not a bad speculation to poison the Resident on the chance of being rewarded by the Prince, and it is impossible to find one man guilty of a crime which another commits in the hope of his approval. But why did not the Indian Government reinstate the Guikwar for at least the remainder of his period of probation? It may be said that we could never have had any dealings with a suspected poisoner, but we might fairly have gone on with the Guikwar until the end of the year, when his deposition would have been easy had his administration continued unreformed, and he might have remained in power had he improved it. We do not desire to lay any great stress on the effect of such a course on Native opinion in India, but so far as this supplies a reasonable motive of action, it would have supported the policy which appears to be justified on the grounds."

Curiously enough the *Statesman* had published itself in the issue immediately before the one in which it discovered our "disloyalty," the following from its London Correspondent on the same subject:

"Here in England people are, I think, fairly bewildered at the steady mismanagement of this wretched Baroda business. The bungling has been from first to last so complete, so persistent, so unrelieved, at any period of its protracted course by a passing gleam of common sense, that it might be supposed the whole thing had been done on purpose for a wag, like that drama in three acts which Dickens once saw 'without a single H. in any of them.' First enters the Bombay Government with its amazing notion that the first condition of correct Indian administration is to provide a certain large salary for Colonel Phayre, no matter whether he be competent or profoundly incapable to perform the duties of his position. This is its contribution to the mess. Then appears the Government of India, anxious to get the Gaekwar deposed but anxious also to shift the odium of that act from itself to the fraternity of Mahratta chiefs. The idea of this was not bad, provided the endeavour was successful. Success, however, was essential, as in case of failure this 'cat's paw' treatment would become painfully apparent. In order to ensure success the Government constructs the Commission in such a way, and proceeds upon evidence so defective, that an unanimous verdict of 'guilty' was next to impossible. This is its contribution to the mess. Finally, the Home Government steps in, stultifies the action of the Viceroy, causes him to appear guilty of a breach of faith, and orders the deposition of the Gaekwar on the ground that he is a bad king and ought to have been deposed long ago. All the newspapers then congratulate themselves that a curious thing known as 'substantial justice' has been done; that the educated native will thoroughly recognise the good intentions of the British Government, but that never again will we attempt to work with one of these mixed Commissions, or in other words the native members, not having cared to play the part of a cat's paw, are declared unfit to carry out the foregone conclusions of the British Government. We do these things, and then we wonder that we are unpopular, and that British rule is made the subject of deprecia-

comment—
O wad some Pow'r the giffie gie us,
To see ourselves as others see us!
It wad frae monie a blunder free us
And foolish notion—
especially that 'one which attributes the unpopularity of British rule in India to the ingratitude of the native, and not to the peculiar quality of the article supplied.'"

Of course the "loyal terms" in which we commented on Lord Salisbury's despatch brand us as "disloyal," though the *Times* has written in such stronger language, and our contemporary's correspondent has been much more plain-spoken. We wish he would take the advice of his London "special," and take out the mote from his own eyes.

But our offence does not end here. The *Statesman* goes on: "Suffice it to say, that the only good thing about the whole business was the appointment of a mixed Commission—an experiment which the *Patriot* hopes will, in spite of Lord Salisbury, be repeated on all future occasions of the kind. Like the *Patriot*, we objected to the mode in which the Gaekwar was deposed, but we certainly never contemplated the disastrous alternative of his restoration." We refer again this self-deceptive writer to the *Times* and his own correspondent. The *Patriot* is in better company!

But we have not yet given the gravest charge preferred against us by our contemporary. We had the temerity to question the propriety of Lord Salisbury's disposing at the fag end of his despatch of such a momentous and general question as the summary deposition of a native prince on the pretext of alleged "incorrigible misrule," without a public enquiry, without an open trial, and observed that certain important points connected with this question should be cleared up. Our intelligent censor says:

"Were it not for the tried loyalty of the *Patriot* we should detect in the following passage a *suggestio falsi*, purposely made in order to foment discontent and possibly sedition: If the following paragraph had been edited by any native writer other than a contributor to the *Patriot*, we might have detected in it a ring of genuine treason. 'Lord Northbrook has rendered a national service by the appointment of the late Baroda Commission, as pointing the constitutional way in which the native Princes should be dealt with, and if our countrymen are wise they should insist upon a strict adherence to that principle.' The Secretary of State having, in his

despatch to Lord Northbrook, distinctly given the Viceroy to understand that Commissions, like that of Baroda, were open to such grave objections as not to bear repetition, we fail to perceive how, except by an appeal to arms, the *Patriot's* 'countrymen' can 'insist' upon a strict adherence to a course of procedure condemned by Lord Salisbury. 'Insist' means something more than 'petition' or 'agitate.' It infers 'forcible pressure' of some kind, and as ours is a benevolently despotic and paramount Power out here, the *Patriot's* countrymen could not insist on our doing what we did not choose to do without rising in rebellion against Government. The *Patriot's* articles will be read by native Princes, are probably intended so to be read; and yet we feel sure that our contemporary does not really mean to preach rebellion against British rule. But if it does not so mean it ought to weigh its words more carefully."

Angels and Ministers of Grace, defend us! Shade of D. L. R! why didst thou not teach us that the word "insist" meant an appeal to arms? We would not then have used this naughty word and thus invoked the wrath of this new high and mighty ally of the Government of India for putting down sedition in the Native Press. Yes, we have been guilty of unparalleled and unpardonable audacity in calling upon our countrymen to "insist" upon the observance of the wicked principle of an open trial of a Native prince accused of "incorrigible misrule," a principle unfortunately laid down by a Governor General, whose wise and beneficent rule places him in the ranks of the Bentincks and Cannings, which is admitted to be sound and just by the Secretary of State, but which is considered by him to be "inconvenient," which is supported by the national organ of England, and which was the other day publicly vindicated by a band of thoughtful men connected with India. Yes, our offence is the greater because in our innocence we thought that there was a power above the Secretary of State, that the Parliament was the last court of appeal, that that tribunal was fully competent to review and revise the dicta and decisions of the India House despot, that it was open to all classes of British subjects to "insist" by appealing to that court of courts and power of powers that what is good, just, and righteous, ought to be done without distinction of color, creed or country. According to writers of the *Indian Statesman* school it is given to Englishmen to write what they please—they may by a stroke of their pen dethrone a potentate or deport a Governor—they may at their sweet will make or unmake a reputation, but woe be to the poor Indian, that born-slave, who dares write as an Englishman would write, who dares speak as an Englishman would speak, who dares "insist" as an Englishman would "insist." But let them howl how they may—we will not answer them in their style. We consider the best interests of our country so intimately interwoven with the stability of British rule in the East, and therefore Indian loyalty to the British Crown so serious and sacred a question that we cannot trifle with ourselves by bandying words with this inmate of No. 1 Chowringhee!

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE HEAR that the Prince of Wales will land at Bombay on or about the 8th November next and reach Calcutta a few days before Christmas. His Royal Highness will probably remain in Calcutta for about a fortnight. A Chapter of the Star of India will be held in this city in commemoration of the occasion.

WE CONGRATULATE the Government of India on the successful issue of its negotiations with the King of Ava for the recognition of the independence of the Kareenee country. A *Gazette Extraordinary* dated the 13th instant contains the Resolution of His Excellency the Governor General in Council. This Resolution shews that the dignity of our Government has been fully vindicated, and that all apprehensions of a rupture with His Majesty of Mandalay have been happily removed. We have received the Resolution too late for insertion in this issue, but we give the salient points below. The Resolution thus disposes of the rumours that the Burmese Go-

vernment were implicated in the attack upon Col. Browne's party:

"The Governor General in Council thinks it but just to His Majesty the King of Ava to announce that no evidence whatever has either then or subsequently been brought forward to show that the Burmese Government or officials were concerned in the attack, excepting a Burmese anonymous letter which had been sent to some Kachyen Chiefs on the lower route between Burma and China (which was not the route taken by the mission) desiring them to have no friendly intercourse with the foreigners. An official enquiry and explanation regarding this letter were requested from the Burmese Government. The letter has subsequently been reported to have been written by a Burmese priest, who has been punished for his act."

With regard to the reception of Li, who is suspected of having had a hand in the murder of Mr. Margary, the Burmese Government explained that Li had not visited Mandalay, or been received with distinction, in his individual capacity, but that he was the bearer of a communication from the Chinese Government regarding the death of the Emperor of China and the succession to the throne, and was accordingly received with the usual honors paid to ambassadors. Our Government accepted this explanation, and the negotiation about the Kareenee country were concluded. The following is the text of the Agreement on the subject:

AGREEMENT.

It is hereby agreed between the British and Burmese Governments that the State of Western Kareenee shall remain separate and independent, and that no Sovereignty or Governing Authority of any description shall be claimed or exercised over that State.

Whereunto we have, on this day, the 21st of June, 1875, corresponding with the 3rd day of the Waxing Moon of Ngayong 1237, B. E., affixed our Seals and Signatures.

(Signed.)
T. D. FORSYTH,
Envoy.

KIN WOON MENGYER.

We consider this Agreement a great triumph, for this is the first time that the Burmese Government have since 1826 attached their seal to an Agreement with our Government.

There is still only one point of difference, which is thus set forth in the Resolution:

"After Sir Douglas Forsyth had concluded the agreement on the subject of Western Kareenee, and had taken leave of the King, an informal, but friendly, communication was made to him from the Minister, indicating disinclination on the part of the Court of Ava to assent to an escort of British troops accompanying a fresh mission to China, but offering a Burmese escort.

In consequence of this circumstance it has become necessary to make a fresh communication to the King, and the subject is still under discussion. While no demands will be made upon the Burmese Government other than those which are necessary and just, His Excellency in Council entertains a confident expectation that the Burmese Government will so receive such further communications as may be addressed to them that the friendship between the two Governments, which it is the earnest desire of His Excellency in Council to preserve, may be maintained intact, and that nothing shall occur calculated to give rise to further differences between the two Countries."

We also hope that the same spirit of moderation, which actuated the Burmese Government in the late negotiations, will prompt them to accede to the reasonable proposal of four Government for permission for an escort. As tax-payers we cannot feel too grateful to Lord Northbrook's Government for the amicable settlement of the dispute with the Burmese Government.

THE FOLLOWING is a telegraphic report of the debate in the House of Commons on the expenses of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's visit to India:

London, July 16.—A debate was held in the House of Commons last night on Mr. Fawcett's motion, that no part of the expenses of the Prince's visit should be charged against Indian revenues. Mr. Fawcett urged that the present was a favourable opportunity to make amends to India of the paltry manner whereby the Indian exchequer was made to defray the expenses of the visit of the Sultan of Turkey to England. Mr. Hankey seconded the motion. Mr. Disraeli said he opposed the motion as the Prince was not going as representative of the Queen, which would have entailed vast expenditure, whereof part would have been borne by India, but was going as the Viceroy's guest, and would have excellent opportunity of visiting the ancient sites and viewing the scenery of India, and also of becoming acquainted with her various peoples, their history, literature, and customs. He (Mr. Disraeli) insisted that the right course had been taken and believed that India would have reason to complain, if deprived of the opportunity of showing hospitality. He

concluded by saying that this visit would be an event in the history of the Empire, and would be attended by inestimable benefits. Mr. Gladstone supported the views of the Government, which were fair and just. He quoted as an instance the Prince's visit to Canada, which colony voluntarily assumed a charge of £53,000, and said that India, if it had popular representation, would do similarly. Mr. Horsman supported the motion. Sir W. Lawson ridiculed Mr. Disraeli's arguments. Mr. Laing regretted that the present opportunity was not seized of acting generously towards India. Mr. Fawcett's motion was rejected by 379 against 69. The House went into committee, and Messrs. Macdonald and Kenealy opposed the vote of £60,000 for the personal expenses of the Prince. Mr. Bright approved of this item. The vote was carried by 350 against 16. The vote for the naval expenditure of £52,000 also was carried.

India would be guilty of the basest ingratitude if she were to grudge the duties of hospitality to her future King. The estimate is modest enough, though we are not without misgivings that it will be considerably exceeded. But State expenditure should not be taken as the measure of Indian loyalty. The princes and people of India will not spare their private purses to give a right loyal welcome to the Heir Apparent to the Throne of England and the Indies.

THE ENGLISHMAN publishes the following telegram from Allahabad:

Allahabad July 16.—The Government of India has desired the East Indian Railway authorities to discontinue dismissing men in the manner they have been doing, and suggests that if further reductions are necessary they should be effected amongst heads of departments. If Native employees are equal to European, why, it is argued, was the rapid extension of traffic at the time of the famine not taken advantage of to recruit entirely from the abundantly supplied native labour market?

But natives have to be trained for the work, and if they are found to be efficient after training we do not see why preference should not be given to them.

CONSEQUENT on the scandal produced by Mr Knight's connection with the press, while holding the office of Assistant Secretary to the Bengal Government, the Government of India has published the following rules for the regulation of the connection of Government servants with the press:

"Resolution.—Questions having recently arisen as to the extent to which officers in the service of Government are permitted to connect themselves with the press, the Governor-General in Council thinks it desirable that the existing orders on the subject should be clearly understood:—

I.—No officer in the service of Government is permitted, without the previous sanction in writing of the Government under which he immediately serves to become the proprietor, either in whole or in part, of any newspaper or periodical publication, or to edit or manage any such newspaper or publication. Such sanction will only be given to the case of newspapers or publications mainly devoted to the discussion of topics not of a political character, such, for instance, as art, science or literature. The sanction will be liable to be withdrawn at the discretion of the Government.

II.—Officers in the service of Government are not prohibited from contributing to the public press. But their position makes it incumbent upon them to confine themselves within the limits of temperate and reasonable discussion, and they are prohibited from making public without the previous sanction of Government any documents, paper, or information of which they may become possessed in their official capacity. These rules have been hitherto in most cases honorably observed. In case of a departure from them, or if the Government should consider the connexion of any officer with the press to be contrary to the public interests, his liberty to contribute will be withdrawn.

III.—The Government of India will decide, in case of doubt, whether any engagements of officers with the press are consistent with the discharge of their duties to the Government.

IV.—Nothing in this Resolution is intended to relax the provisions of any regulation on this subject which now apply to the Army."

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE was received in Cooch Behar with great *eclat*. The residents presented the following address to His Honor:

TO THE HON'BLE SIR RICHARD TEMPLE K. C. S. I.
Lieutenant Governor of Bengal.
MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOR,—WE, the undersigned, beg most respectfully to approach your Honor with the following address of welcome:—

1. Your wise and benevolent policy saved, not long ago, the Lower Province and the State of Cooch Behar from a calamity, which at one time threatened to depopulate them and we gladly take the present auspicious opportunity of your advent amongst us to express our high sense of sincere and heartfelt gratitude to your Honor.

2. The natives of Bengal do ever naturally look up to their rulers for help in need and generous policy of your Honor, which recognised the duty of furnishing food to the famishing masses, as one of the functions of Government and which was nobly responded to by the Government of Cooch Behar, will ever endear your Honor to the heart of Bengal and of the Raj.

3. It is not for us here to enumerate the several measures which emanated from that benevolent policy and which were so faithfully and successfully carried out by the authorities in the State of Cooch Behar. They will remain as guides to future rulers; and the history of Cooch Behar will proudly

record the fact that for the first time a famine of the worst type passed over the Raj, without any loss of life—while the drain on the exchequer was but comparatively light.

4. The remedial measures, which are being adopted with a view to prevent the recurrence of this dire calamity and which, when carried out, will remain lasting monuments of a benign and provident policy, have filled the public heart with hope and confidence. The spread of education amongst all classes of the people, the extension of roads and the prospect of a Rail—Way passing through a part of the Raj, will, we humbly beg to assure your Honor, prove useful in more respects than one and will confer on the Raj an abiding and inestimable boon.

5. In the inscrutable ways of Providence even a famine has its uses. It has knit together, in the closest ties of affection, the rulers and the ruled.

6. Since the British Government has assumed the management of this State as a trustee, slavery has disappeared from the Raj; the State Revenue wisely and ably administered has vastly increased and been most punctually collected; the Khash Tohmoel system has proved a great success; the excise Revenue has steadily increased without increasing drunkenness; a new survey and settlement of the land most ably and successfully conducted has now been brought nearly to a close; Civil and Criminal Justice has been very efficiently administered; the Medical Department has now proved a real blessing to the people; the Departments of education, Police and Public Works have been yielding in utility and efficiency to no similar Department elsewhere and European piece-goods finding their way to every corner of the State. Under the auspices of your Honor's most popular Government these blessings are daily gaining strength; and it is gratifying to observe how in the course of a few years a radical change has been introduced and a ruined peasantry led to the paths of prosperity and of happiness.

7. Your Honor's anxiety for the education and enlightenment of this benighted people and the active steps which under the guidance of your Government have been and are being successfully taken to educate all classes of people in this State has had the happiest effect. The Cooch Beharies have already shewed themselves fully equal to the natives of other parts of Bengal, competing with them on perfectly equal terms. They can now hold their own with credit to their country and we hope the day is looming at no great distance when they may fully vie in moral and intellectual progress with the people of the most favored districts.

8. Our mind is at present so full of gratitude for these signal benefits, that we can scarcely turn to express our high sense of the wisdom and generosity which have invariably characterised your Honor's Government, from its very commencement, in connection with this State, which your Honor holds in trust for a young and highly promising Minor Raja who under the Mercy of Providence will, no doubt, in time, prove a blessing to his people.

9. We now offer your Honor our humble but sincere and heartfelt thanks for the kind solicitude for our welfare evinced by your visit, at no small privation to yourself and pray for your Honor's long life, health and prosperity.

Cooch Behar, the 4th July 1875.

One native gentleman, Babu Bykuntchunder Mustafi, zemindar of Gobrachara, Cooch Behar, by way of commemoration of this auspicious event, made a donation of Rs. 1000 for the foundation of a scholarship in the Maharaja's Sanskrit School.

A correspondent from Goalpara writes to us to say that the inhabitants of that station regret that they had no timely notice of the Lieutenant Governor's visit to enable them to make a demonstration in honor of it. His Honor accompanied by the Lord Bishop visited the hills, and stayed at Goalpara for two hours.

THE FRIENDS OF INDIAN coolies in Mauritius lately held a public meeting for the purpose of considering the propriety of voting a purse to Mr. A. de Plevitz, in recognition of his earnest exertions for the amelioration of the condition of the laboring population of that island. Mr. Rajaruthnam Mudaliar, a public-spirited native gentleman of Madras residing at Port Louis, took the chair. He recounted the services rendered by Mr. Plevitz. This gentleman was chiefly instrumental in obtaining the late Royal Commission of Enquiry into the condition of Indian laborers in Mauritius. He first presented a petition signed by 10,000 immigrants, then published a pamphlet, and when the Commission was appointed did his best to prove his allegations. Mr. Rajaruthnam said:

"All the journals of the Colony vilified and calumniated Mr. de Plevitz, and have pursued the same line up to the present, with the sole exception of the *Sentinel de Maurice*, which, under the management of Mr. C. H. Leal, has, for some time past, given him cordial support. Mr. de Plevitz has been assaulted, his life was for a time in danger, he had to be protected by the Police and 900 persons of respectable position signed a Petition to the Governor, praying his Excellency to expel Mr. de Plevitz from the Colony and approving the assault which had been committed on him. This Petition was rejected by the Governor, who severely rebuked those who signed it. His Excellency then appointed a Commission to enquire into the conduct of the Police with respect to Old Immigrants, and the Report showed that the grievances complained of in the Petition were, in the main,

established. The Planters, to defend themselves against the charge made by Mr. de Plevitz in his Pamphlet, prayed the Governor to have a Royal Commission of Enquiry appointed, and their request was acceded to. The Royal Commissioners, Messrs. Frere and Williamson, instituted a most searching and elaborate investigation into all matters concerning Indian Immigrants in Mauritius, and their Report, just received here, unmistakably demonstrates that the allegations contained in Mr. de Plevitz's Pamphlet as to the ill-treatment of Indian Immigrants in the Colony, have been proved to be well-founded, and, far from being exaggerated, have been beneath the mark. The consequence is that the Labour Laws will be considerably changed and modified, and the condition of Indian Immigrants ameliorated. All this is due to Mr. de Plevitz, who has given his time, spent his means and employed his best energies during the last four years in this cause; for this, as I have told you, he is subjected to such obloquy and persecution that it is impossible for him to remain in the country. He is reduced to a state of poverty, and you are called together this evening to adopt such measures as may express our gratitude to him for what he has done for our fellow countrymen of the labouring class, and to provide him with the necessary means to enable him to quit the Island with his family. I trust that this appeal will be generously responded to by you as the services rendered by Mr. de Plevitz to the labouring class of our fellow countrymen, cannot be ignored by us, and if we remain silent we shall give proof of an utter absence of national feeling and spirit."

We hope the Indian community will mark their appreciation of the services rendered by this liberator of Indian coolies in Mauritius by subscribing to the testimonial.

THERE IS speculation afloat as to whether Burma is a tributary of China. The *North China Herald* says:

"Now this document rather staggers our belief in the tributary anxiety of the 'outer nations,' and suggests a doubt whether the King of Burmah has used quite the servile language which the Chinese translation conveys. According to it, the King designates himself by a term less than even the Ministers of China adopted, in memorials to the throne, and addresses the Emperor in a strain of adulation and self-depreciation, which would hardly be excelled if the petition came from the meanest slave in his dominions. Oriental imagery and Oriental hyperbole tolerate much, but a doubt will arise whether even the Court of Mandalay would use language so absolutely grovelling as that of the present document. However, that Burmah is in some sense tributary to China seems beyond doubt. The Yunnan Governor's allegation in regard to the decennial presentation of tribute, finds curious confirmation in the very reclamation from Siam, to which we referred at the outset. In reviewing the relations of China with her neighbours, the Regent remarks that Burmah made war against China in the last century, to get rid of the obligation; but in 1867-8-9, the Chinese sent successive armies into the country, and the Burmese eventually 'yielded and begged to pay tribute once in ten years as before.' The Government of Yunnan now tells us that for eighteen years, the practice has been interrupted, owing to the Mahomedan rebellion; but in 1872, after the restoration of imperial rules, a Burmese officer came to the provincial capital to ask for instructions as to the matter of tribute. The Governor commanded him to act in accordance with the established custom; and now at last we have the result."

We do not think that this question ought to be left a mystery. Surely the British Government can clear it up by calling upon the two Governments to state the facts of the case.

LAST WEEK Calcutta narrowly escaped a cyclone. It began to rain hard from Sunday last, and there was no cessation of rain till Wednesday. For two days the wind was high, and on Wednesday morning it threatened to assume the aspect of a gale. But this is not the cyclone season and the wind fortunately abated. The *Englishman* says: "The place of origin of this atmospheric disturbance was either on land or very near the shore, which accounts for its low intensity and for the extreme slowness with which it moved, from the eastward towards the westwards, probably in the direction of Moharbanj."

THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

With reference to the last resolution of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor on the subject of the selection of School-books and the circumstances under which the selection was made the *Sakachar* thinks the Bengali authors have now good reason for hope and that those who advised His Honor that Messrs Clarke and Lethbridge's histories were the best historical books extant wilfully misled the Government.

The *Bharat Sangskarak* says that the English people at home have got an impression that the English Government is not popular in India. But for this opinion they have no fair authority of Indian Public Opinion, since native newspapers in India are not the exponents of the different parties but of merely single individuals. Except when oppressed by the police or the zemindars the people give vent to no feelings. When there is a universal cessation of theft and robbery they give expression to feelings of gratitude towards the English Government. The educated and thinking classes are dissatisfied with the English Government for the following reasons. First, partiality in the distribution of public patronage by conferring a monopoly of places on their own countrymen, and making a distinction of race and colour in the administration of justice. Second cause is the self-will of the authorities who in most cases completely defy public opinion. Third is the harsh and unjust treatment of the native princes. Fourth is the foreign character of the Government for which alone many look upon it with disfavor. But notwithstanding these grounds there are scarcely any who deny the blessings they enjoy under the English Government and wish for its change.

Alluding to Messrs Clarke and Lethbridge's works on History and Geography and their translations the *Samaj Durpan* says that if they had been known only by these works there would have been good reason for doubting their learning and scholarship.

The *Amritabazar Patrika* is of opinion that the people who depend exclusively on agricultural pursuits become in the course of time dull, listless, timid, helpless and dependent. It is the combination of agricultural occupations with manufactures which contribute to the wealth of the country; he therefore exhorts his countrymen to turn their attention to the manufacture of goods which are imported from abroad.

The *Shomprakash* says that the untimely decline of Sir George Campbell's pet scheme, the Native Civil Service is to be considered as a piece of good fortune to the country. It has timely averted a grave calamity. The educated and intelligent alumni of the colleges scrupulously kept aloof from this service. It was the refuge of the half-educated ill-informed men to whom it had become a make-shift and yet the important duties of Magistrate and Collector which required sound knowledge, great judgment and discretion were entrusted to them. Sooner or later they would have proved their general unfitness and that would have given a handle to the enemies of the country for saying that Bengalees are incompetent and unfit to be entrusted with important public duties.

The *Burrahannur Samachar* observes that those who charge the natives with disloyalty and ill-feeling towards the existing Government evidently ascribe to them motives of impatience of foreign rule, but when the natives themselves express their inability to assume the function of self-government what motives can they have for decrying the Government under which they live in security and comfort? If they criticize particular measures of Government or expose the misdeeds and irregular proceedings of particular officers with a view to redress that cannot be construed into a feeling of disloyalty. The cry is a stratagem of the European officers who want to suppress exposure of their faults and irregularities.

The *Poornochandroday* says that the daily increase of exorbitant demands made by the parents of a marriageable boy amongst the Hindoos have become a social grievance which requires speedy remedy. He therefore advises the heads of the Hindoo community to combine and frame rules for the guidance of their countrymen that shall have for their basis the principle that there shall be no haggling in marriages and that when the alliance becomes desirable in consideration of the respectability of the parties, their descent and position in life, it shall be not broken if there be any disagreement as to the wedding presents.

Correspondence.

DESPERATE CYNICISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

SIR—That is the meaning of the article entitled "The Uttarpara Hitakari Sabha" in the last number of the *Bengal Magazine*, edited by the Revd. Lal Behari Day, author of *Govinda Samanta*, and whoever would doubt or deny this should hold himself ready to prove that he is not one of those interesting specimens of humanity whom jurists very politely call *non compos mentis*.

Mother Earth has at her good will and pleasure given birth to many cynics of both the orders *mute* and *loquacious*. Of the order first named Sir Diogenes was perhaps the highest and most original prototype; of the order next named Sir *Saturday Review* is, by common consent and acceptance, the fullest fledged representative. Of the cynicism of Sir Diogenes (whose 'Sir' should not shock or surprise the squeamish reader who has been able to reconcile himself to the 'Sir' of Sir Richard Garth) the world knows and understands nothing, save and except the little (or very much?) that can be inferred from a human animal's living in a tub and promiscuous in the streets of a crowded city after the fashion adopted by grandfather Adam, at the bidding, no doubt, of grandmother Eve, whose exquisite notions about the body's outfit have only been appreciated, though but partially, by Indian fakers and Parisian Mademoiselles. And then, good or bad, cynicism of the type of that of Sir Diogenes has never worked much evil among men; for History tells us that tub-life had very few attractions for the joyous Greeks of old, never became fashionable among them, and ended as it had begun with Sir Diogenes himself. But, though unable to substitute tubs for houses temporarily or perma-

nently, it must be confessed that the cynicism of Sir Diogenes, as manifested in Adam-like promenades and a canine mode of housekeeping, cannot have been a pleasant sight to the countrymen of Socrates and Plato. It must have been a temporary nuisance. So much for and against *mute* cynicism. As regards the *loquacious* cynicism of Sir *Saturday Review*, let the world take note that it has its roots in philosophy. Curiously enough Sir *Saturday Review* and Auguste Comte warmly shake hands together over the woman's right question and the grog-shop question. Compare the doughty Knight's well-known views in these two matters with those of the great philosopher:—(1) "Philosophers must be excluded from government at least as rigidly as women;" and (2) "It is the fashion to declaim against wine-shops; and yet after all they are at present the only places where the people can enjoy society." Indeed, Sir *Saturday Review*'s cynicism means only a staunch and caustic protest against the alarming overgrowth of cant, hypocrisy, selfishness, vanity, weak-mindedness, hobbyism and frivolity in the old Continent of Europe and new Continent of America. Sir *Saturday Review* is cynical because you are too uncynical, which you should never be. And even when he seems to preach superlative cynicism, you cannot say that he ignores fact or scorns philosophy altogether.

Sir *Bengal Magazine* is also a cynic; and in as much as he makes use of Gutenberg's machine to preach cynicism to his benighted countrymen, you must call him 'standard-bearer to Sir *Saturday Review*. Let us see with what fidelity he serves his lord.

The objects of the Uttarpara Hitakari Sabha—in our opinion a very useful institution—are "to educate the poor, to distribute medicines to the indigent sick, to support poor widows and orphans, to encourage female education, and to ameliorate the social, moral and intellectual condition of the inhabitants of Uttarpara and the places adjoining." Now, in reviewing the last annual report of this benevolent institution, Sir *Bengal Magazine* says:—"In what way the Sabha ameliorates the social and moral condition of the inhabitants of Uttarpara and the places adjoining, the report does not tell us; though it does tell us that for ameliorating the 'intellectual' condition of the said inhabitants three lectures were delivered during the last year." On referring to the Sabha's abstract of cash accounts which, as we shall show further on, cannot have escaped the eagle eye of Sir B. M. and which indeed seems to be almost the only thing he read to pronounce a wise judgment, we find that during the past year it gave Rs. 130 to poor boys for education, spent Rs. 32 for medicine, assisted widows and orphans with Rs. 188, encouraged girls to read and write by giving them scholarships to the extent of Rs. 355, spent Rs. 52 in rewarding married girls reading within the zenana, and gave a bonus of Rs. 16 to the Pundit of the Uttarpara Girls' School. This means that the Sabha spent Rs. 533 in the cause of education, and what we would impress most strongly upon the reader is that, out of that sum Rs. 423 was devoted to the purposes of female education alone. Now it is too late in the day for wag or wight, not excepting Sir B. M. himself, to deny that the best way of elevating the social and moral condition of a people is to elevate the condition of their women and that woman's condition any more than that of man cannot be improved without sound and useful education. And that being the plight to which nineteenth-century folks have been reduced by thinkers of all the schools now flourishing on the face of the earth, does it not look marvellous strange to ask a Sabha, half of whose expenditure is set down to the account of female education, 'what have you done to ameliorate the social and moral condition of the inhabitants of your village?' But let us suppose for a moment that female education is not a condition of social and moral progress; will Sir B. M. deny it to be an instrument of intellectual progress? If not, why does he simply say that, 'for ameliorating the 'intellectual' condition of the inhabitants of Uttarpara, three lectures were delivered during the last year?' This is nothing more or less than sacrificing fairness to the morbid Genius of cynicism! But the question has a graver though less culpable aspect than this. Supporting helpless widows and orphans is an act which does not at first sight strike one as being any how connected with the question of social and moral amelioration. But an inch-deep reflection alone will make it clear that the two works are not after all so very distinct in metres and boundaries. According to Victor Hugo—John Bright's poet of Freedom—no society can be said to be in a sound moral condition where woman is compelled to sell her virtue, man to sell his liberty and orphans to starve. Indigent widows, if not helped by society, have recourse to vice and unassisted orphans form the nucleus of the world's criminal population. To assist the two classes of *miserables* has, therefore, the effect of preventing vice and crime, which means social reformation of a truly radical nature. The admirable domestic organisation of the Hindus keeps absolute helplessness in widowhood and orphanage within the narrowest limits. This fact, we have no doubt, greatly accounts for the comparatively small sum of Rs. 188 spent by the Hitakari Sabha in assisting widows and orphans. But the expenditure, though small, was not the less an expenditure in a truly reformatory work. Thus Sir B. M.'s statement that the Hitakari Sabha is doing nothing to ameliorate the social and moral condition of the people of Uttarpara rings hollowest in uncynical ears.

Then again Sir B. M. is, after due consideration of the premises, decidedly opposed to the Sabha's doing good works of many different kinds. That is opposed to the Almighty economic principle of Division of Labor, and therefore the world should take care that benevolent societies do not adopt the system of helping widows and lunatics and orphans simultaneously. This is the most marvellous reading of political economy we have ever seen. But Sir *Bengal Magazine* will be pleased to note one thing—one very small but very important thing. To render charity is but to obey an impulse of the heart. The heart is moved by sights of misery. And sights of misery are presented by all manner of persons. Is it not therefore absurd to talk of departments of charity and perfecting by distributing it on the principle of Division of Labor? Charity springs from the heart; and whatever the heart points to, charity should touch. Individuals do not distribute charity upon the principle of Division of Labor, and public charity is then most ennobling and efficacious when it is distributed most nearly in the way individuals serve the heart. Doing deeds of charity is a very different affair from Adam Smith's 'pin-making.' Economy-mongers would do well to

note this—thunders the mighty shade of the great father of Political Economy.

Thirdly, Sir B. M. is very angry because the Sabha has in its hands a balance of Rs. 514. No, a benevolent society—according to the worthy Knight—should have no balance in hand. "It ought to spend every pice it gets, trusting for the conduct of its future operations to the liberality of the members and of the public." Here is Political Economy interpreted in a vengeful spirit; here is Adam Smith beaten to annihilation! Benevolent societies are nothing if they are not in a state of chronic insolvency; and the advice that they should spend every pice they have, "trusting for the conduct of their future operations to the liberality of the public," certainly comes with singular good grace from a man who seems to be so far choked with liberality as to be unable to utter one good word of mouth. Sir *Bengal Magazine* hopes to read in the next year's Report of the Hitakari Sabha that "it has gone deeply into debt." Sir *Bengal Magazine* does not prove by any statistics of his own that the Sabha could have worthily spent its balance of Rs. 514 and something more in order to get into the condition of indebtedness proper to all philanthropic societies. His angelic hope, therefore, means that poverty in Uttarpara will so far increase during the current year as to make it necessary for the benevolent Sabha to do what it should have done long before—appeal to the Insolvent Debtors Act, make over all goods and chattels to the official Assignee, obtain the certificate of discharge, and have done with humbug humanity for ever and ever? But though wanting in statistics, Sir *Bengal Magazine* has some very hold questions to ask the Sabha. "Is the paltry sum of 36 Rs. a month sufficient to educate all the girls of Uttarpara and the adjoining places," is one of these questions. If Sir *Bengal Magazine* had taken the trouble of reading through the report, instead of keeping his eyes heroically fixed upon the page containing the society's accounts, the very first thing he would have learnt is that, the Hitakari Sabha does not educate girls, but simply fixes their courses of study, examines them and gives them prizes, thus performing for the softer sex what the Calcutta University does for the harder. The Honorary Secretary's letter to Babu Bhuleb Mookerji, Inspector of Schools, Western Circle, pages 10 to 23 of the Report, fully explains the function performed by the Sabha in the matter of female education. "Is two Rupees worth of medicine sufficient to cure all the 'indigent sick' of Uttarpara and the adjoining places?" is another of these crushing questions. Sir *Bengal Magazine* was born about the month of June 1872. (we possess no copy of his horoscope, attested or unattested.) We think, therefore, that he possesses copies of all the Reports of the Hitakari Sabha at least since the year of his birth. And we must presume that he has read the following passage in page 5 of the Sabha's Report for 1873-74:—

"The amount spent by the Sabha in rendering medical help to the indigent sick is shown in the cash accounts in Appendix A. The smallness of the amount is owing to the generally healthy condition of the locality and also to the reason that the application to the Sabha for relief under this head comes from a limited class, namely from those who might be called the respectable poor, who can neither afford the cost for purchasing medicines nor avail themselves of the Government Charitable Dispensary at Uttarpara."

But why rate Sir *Bengal Magazine* for not reading the Reports of the Hitakari Sabha? As a nineteenth-century Knight, Sir *Bengal Magazine*'s business is simply to fight with the 'gray goose-quill' just as the business of his predecessors of the Middle Ages was simply to fight with swords and spears.

But "why does a society which spends 48 Rs. a month in benevolence spend 81 Rs. a year in publishing a record of that benevolence?" asks Sir *Bengal Magazine*. Yes, 81 to show off 48 is surely nothing less than atrocious vanity. But the devil should have had his due, and been written off either against '81 for 575' or against '7 for 48.' But is the publication of the society's reports a mere showing-off affair after all? The most important business of the society is to encourage female education, as the extent of space allotted to that subject in all its reports plainly testifies. Now, the question of educating Hindu girls is admittedly a most difficult one; and is it not right that anything that is done to solve it practically should be communicated to the public? We find it stated in one of the earlier reports of the Sabha that the District School Committee of the 24 Pargunnahs, after consulting the Sabha, has adopted, without addition or subtraction, the system followed by it for the encouragement of female education; and we have been credibly informed that the Government of Bengal is just now engaged in ascertaining the views of the Sabha in this most important matter. If the reports of the Sabha have been able to do this and this only, even '81 for 48' deserves a *Bravo*.

One of the very friendly advices given to the Sabha by Sir *Bengal Magazine* is "that it should have recourse to less paraphernalia than at present." Finding that His Excellency the Viceroy is the Patron of the Society, Sir *Bengal Magazine* delivers himself as follows:—

"The Governor General is exceedingly kind-hearted, and likes to encourage the people of this country in every good work; but we greatly doubt whether His Lordship would have accepted the post of Patron, if he had been informed that the Sabha spent only 48 Rs. a month in the cause of benevolence and national amelioration."

In the report of the Sabha for 1871-72, we find a letter signed by the Viceroy's Private Secretary, from which we make the following extract:—

"I am directed to state that His Excellency fully appreciates the efforts which the Uttarpara Hitakari Sabha has made in dealing with female education which is a subject in which His Excellency takes a deep interest."

His Excellency gladly consents to become a patron of the Society."

Thus the Viceroy of India became a patron of the Sabha after fully informing himself of the nature of its functions and the extent of its benevolence. And the small donation of Rs. 200 given to the Sabha by His Excellency, as stated in one of the Reports, is clear proof that the donor knew the donee to be a very small affair and knowing that, did not feel that God or man could cry shame upon him for his becoming its patron. But whatever Sir *Bengal Magazine* may say about the impudence or impertinence of the Sabha in making the Governor General of India its patron

* See Bridges' *General View of Positivism*, P. 227.† See *Ibid*, P. 207.

we humbly and reverently state it as our opinion that, if the Sabba has ever been able to relieve a poor widow or feed a starving orphan, it has for its warmest friend and patron the All-Merciful God who dwelleth in heaven, the Governor General of the Universe.

Yours &c.,
BIRCH.

MONEY MARKET.

July 17, 1875.

GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES LOANS OF 1867.			
5	Per Cent. for 10 years (1877)	Rs. 101 8 to 102 0	
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GOVERNMENT LOANS.			
	Per 100 Rs.		
4	Per Cent. Promissory Notes	Rs. 102 2 to 102 6	
44	" of 1870 Co.'s Rs. (1885)	" 104 8 to 105 0	
44	" of 1871 Co.'s Rs. (1881)	" 104 4 to 104 8	
44	" of 1872 Co.'s Rs. (1879)	" 103 0 to 103 4	
51	" of 1859-60 Co.'s Rs. (1879)	" 108 14 to 109 0	
CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.			
	Per 100 Rs.		
6	Per Cent. of 1864 (due in 1884)	Rs. 112 8 to 113 0	
6	" of 1865 (1885)	" 113 0 to 113 8	
6	" of 1866 (1886)	" 113 8 to 114 0	
6	" of 1867 (1887)	" 114 0 to 114 8	
6	" of 1870 (1890)	" 114 8 to 115 0	
6	" of 1872 (1892)	" 115 0 to 116 8	

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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" Bojendro Mohun Das, Bankipore.....	6	10 0
" Annapurasad Mozoomdar, Ghatal.....	6	10 0
" Ram Chunder Bose, Julpigore.....	13	4 0
" Ram Charn Lal, Ranchee.....	3	5 0
" Obhoy Coomar Bose, Bhagulpore.....	6	10 0
ERRATUM.		
READ.—Babu Mohadeb Mookerjee for Babu Mohanand Mookerjee, Monghyr.....	15	0 0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—July 14, 1875.

GENERAL.—The 3rd July 1875.—Mr. James Douglas White, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sonthal Pergunnahs, on leave, is allowed leave for two years and four months, under Section 9, Supplement F of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of leave granted to him in the Calcutta Gazette of the 11th November 1875.

The 8th July 1875. The services of Mr. William Henry Verner, C.S., are placed at the disposal of the Government of India in the Financial Department, with effect from the 20th instant.

This cancels the order of the 9th June last, published in the Calcutta Gazette of the 16th idem, appointing Mr. Verner to act as Magistrate and Collector of Moorsheadabad.

Mr. Charles Campbell Quinn, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhagulpore, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Moorsheadabad during the absence, on leave, of Mr. Wavell, or until further orders.

Monivie Dulleelooddeen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Patna, is allowed leave for one month, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 19th June 1875, or any subsequent date on which he may have availed himself of it.

Mr. Francis Johnston Graham Campbell, in charge of the Jamoos Division of the Monghyr district, is transferred to the Sudder Station of that district.

Mr. Michael Finucane, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Monghyr, is appointed to have charge of the Jamoos Division of that district, and is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870.

The 9th July 1875.—Mr. A. D'B. Gomes, Commissioner of the Soonderbuns, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Regulations VII of 1823 and IX of 1825 in Bakergunge, for settlement of the Tooshkalee estate in that district.

Advertisements.

(To be published this week, price Rs. 4.)

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The publishers beg to inform their patrons that owing to a cause which is mentioned in Mookerjee's Yellow-Book and subsequently to the long illness of the Editor, who has now recovered, there has been a great irregularity in the appearance of the publication, for which they crave their public indulgence. They expect to make up in a few more weeks by quality, quantity and punctuality.

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১৪৭

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